

Navy ships may be taken out of service

The Royal Navy may have to take a number of ships out of service because of shortage of manpower (our Defence Correspondent writes).

Among the possibilities understood to be under consideration are putting the carrier, Hermes, into mothballs or alternatively taking two or more escort ships out of service.

The difficulty has arisen partly because of the experience of the Falklands conflict. More ships have been retained in service than were planned in Sir John Nott's defence review of June 1981.

The projected cut in naval manpower of between 8,000 and 10,000 by 1986 will not be accomplished, but, nevertheless, a mismatch has arisen between the number of ships and the men available.

Radio-controlled storage heaters

The South of England Electricity Board said in Glasgow yesterday that it will conduct trials over the next 12 months on advanced signalling techniques for managing domestic supplies.

The Radio Teleswitching Project will involve installing switches in the premises of off-peak tariff consumers which can be operated remotely by signals superimposed on the BBC Radio 4 carrier frequency. That would allow the board to vary the times at which consumers take electricity for storage heaters.

'Police raid' complaint

Police are to investigate a complaint from Mr Frank Thomas, of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, that 30 armed officers ordered his wife, Mrs Suzanne Thomas, who is pregnant, and his son aged two, to leave their home at 3 am and spend three hours at a police station. Mrs Thomas said police then realized they had made a mistake.

Thames Valley Police said a complaint had been received and would be investigated.

'Final appeal' on pit closures

The National Union of Mineworkers yesterday submitted its "final appeal" to stop the closure of two collieries in Scotland and South Wales and challenged the National Coal Board to a public debate on the industry's future.

But it is practically certain that the closure of Cardowan and Brynllif pits will be confirmed by the coal board in the next two weeks.

British Airways set for court battle to thwart shuttle rival

By John Witherow

The Government's policy of free competition on air routes will face a challenge in the High Court next week when British Airways contests a decision that threatens to push its domestic services into deficit.

The state airline, which is due to be sold to the public in 1985, wants to stop its independent rival, British Midland Airways, from competing with its Heathrow-Belfast shuttle.

British Airways decided to by-pass the normal route for appeals to the Secretary of State for Transport by questioning the legality of the Civil Aviation Authority's decision to grant a licence to British Midland. The recourse to the courts was given added urgency yesterday when Dan-Air announced it would apply to compete with the British Airways shuttle between Heathrow and Manchester.

British Airways, which made a profit of £6m last year on domestic routes, has lost a third of its market to British Midland Airways on shuttle services to Glasgow and Edinburgh. It told the authority that if the Derby-based airline took a similar share of the 630,000 passengers who use the Belfast-London

route each year it would lose overall on the main domestic

Belfast route but added that it did not accept that British Airways shuttle service could not be operated profitably in the long run. It argued that its interpretation of the 1980 Act was not challenged by British Airways at the public hearing last month over British Midland Airways application.

British Midland Airways services to Belfast are due to start in the autumn with seven flights every weekday in each direction and four at the weekend, with reserved seats and fares at £52.50 one way, £3.50 cheaper than the shuttle.

Its unprecedented decision to go directly to court reflects a determination to get a strictly legal ruling on the Aviation Act of 1980 rather than one based on the Government's "open skies" policy of allowing state firms to be challenged by private enterprise. It feels that the authorities ignored references in the Act which allowed for some protection for airlines already operating routes.

The Civil Aviation Authority said that it recognized that the traffic and profitability of British Airways would be affected by competition on the

Basnett presses for policy re-think

By David Fenton, Labour Correspondent

A strong call for the labour movement to embark on a complete overhaul of its economic and employment policies

and to reconsider the role of trade unions was made yesterday by Mr David Basnett, a senior figure in both wings of the movement.

Speaking to union officials in Lancashire, Mr Basnett said that the general election result and the known views of union members made a reappraisal "imperative" over the next few years.

"We must take a long hard look at the employment situation and the development of the economy. That rethink will take time to complete. We are working on out-of-date concepts, with policies which do not take on board the drastic changes in our economy, our society and the structure of employment," Mr Basnett, general secretary of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, said.

Mr Basnett, as chairman of the TUC economic committee, was instrumental last month in launching a detailed study to be carried out by TUC staff, into possible changes in the econ-

omic policies on which Labour fought the June election. That investigation will also look at ways of making the TUC's annual economic report more realistic, rather than being a shopping list of demands to the Government.

Mr Basnett said yesterday: "We know it is no use repeating the same old nostrums. Next year we should confine ourselves to two things: campaigning on those issues on which even this Government can be influenced, and campaigning to defend specific sections of our members and of British industry and the welfare state that are under threat."

His remarks were aimed at the trade unions but were also apparently for the ears of the Labour Party. He said not all the present policies were wrong.

"Some of our policies we have simply failed to put over adequately and others we need to modify. But behind all our detailed policies we need a much clearer and more up-to-date analysis to give us both a firmer ideological position and a much more coherent framework within which to defend the specific interests of our members", Mr Basnett said.

There were 13 candidates in the poll, carried out at branch level by secret voting in sealed envelopes,

If you have a place or the promise of a place at a University or Polytechnic, you can apply for either a University Cadetship or a Bursary.

In all cases, the University or Polytechnic of your choice must be in the

If you're an Undergraduate or a Graduate with an acceptable UK Degree, you can apply under the Direct Graduate Scheme.

You can apply to join the Seaman Supply and Secretariat, or Engineering branches on a Full or Short Career Commission or join the Fleet Air Arm for a Medium or Short Career Commission up to the age of 26 on entry.

Guidance on the interpretation of what constitutes an 'acceptable degree' can be obtained from the address below.

For the Engineering branch, however, you will obviously need a degree in Mechanical, Electrical or Aeronautical Engineering or a closely related subject.

If you have a degree in Engineering, Maths or Physics, you can apply to join the Instructor branch up to the age of 34.

All Graduate applicants must also have GCE 'O' levels in English Language, Maths and a Physics-based Science.

Once accepted for a Graduate Entry, your introduction to Naval life will take place at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth.

You'll spend less time at Dartmouth than the non-Graduate entrant and you will start with the immediate rank of Sub Lieutenant.

When you want to know more, you can write to Captain S.G. Palmer RN. His address is:

Department 203, Old Admiralty Building, Spring Gardens, London SW1A 2BE.

Tell him which way of becoming a Naval Officer interests you.

And give him a bit of information about your career to date and your qualifications, both present and expected. (For GCE 'O' and 'A' levels, equivalent passes are acceptable. Normally 'C' grades or better are required at 'A' level. You must also be a UK resident.)

In return, we'll send you information about the life and work as an Officer in the Royal Navy and answer any specific questions we can.

Or call in at your nearest RN and RM Careers Information Office.

Royal Navy Officer

How to earn this badge.

United Kingdom, and you should expect to graduate before you're 26. If you're a particularly impressive candidate and want to enter on a Full Career Commission, you could be offered a University Cadetship.

In this case, you will become a Midshipman, receiving £4,563 for your first year, £5,110 for your second year and £5,661 for your third year. The Bursary is currently worth £900 p.a. on top of any grant you receive from your Local Education Authority, and is tax-free.

With a Bursary, you will remain a civilian while you are at University, but will be required to serve at least a Short Career Commission after you graduate.

Later on, you can apply to transfer from a Short Career Commission to a Full Career Commission. The success of your application will depend on our both agreeing that this is the right move for you.

On entry refers to the month you join Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, where your initial Naval training takes place. This will normally be January, May or September.

After the Britannia Royal Naval College, Engineers train at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, to study for a BSc.



Death trap: A washed uniform being fire-tested on a dummy.

Fire danger for nurses

National uniform dresses worn by 85 per cent of nurses and nursing auxiliaries are highly inflammable and could prove a death trap for the wearer, according to the *Nursing Standard*. The official weekly news paper of the Royal College of Nursing, which has carried out intensive tests.

Cancer was first raised by two senior nurses at the Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, which has had two fires in the uniform supply room.

According to the paper, a confidential report has been sent to the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS) by one regional health authority expressing concern about the dresses, which conform to DHSS specifications and are made of a mixture of polyester and viscose.

A fire test carried out by *Nursing Standard* showed that

£5,000 reward offered in sex attack hunt

A £5,000 reward was offered yesterday for information leading to the capture of three men who kidnapped and sexually assaulted a boy aged six in Brighton.

The boy was snatched on a quiet street on Sunday evening. The men drove him to a local beauty spot, stripped him and carried out the assault before dumping him at a road junction. He was found in a distressed state and taken to hospital.

Mrs Valerie Last, aged 36, was driving her teenage daughter home when she saw the boy, standing alone by a hedge in Newhaven, East Sussex. "He was incoherent and soaked in tears," she said.

The boy's mother told a press conference: "He was only able to give a rough description of the men. If I knew who they were, I would do time for them. I think they should be shot. They are just maniacs."

Detectives investigating the assault were checking on a child pornography ring on the South Coast which is believed to include members in the resort.

They were also making inquiries among the homosexual community and trying to trace regulars at a homosexual discotheque held on Sunday evening in Brighton.

Bolt's Gay Disco, held in the Pink Cocomi, West Street, is one of several clubs and public houses used by homosexuals in Brighton.

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Royal Navy Officer

Ulster CBI attacks priest's attempt to wreck Shorts deal

From Richard Ford, Belfast

A Roman Catholic priest from the United States who was born in Northern Ireland was heavily criticized yesterday by the Confederation of British Industry for his attempt to ruin an Ulster firm's chances of winning a £20m order from the US Air Force.

The order, for 18 transport aircraft, could mean an extra 600 jobs at Shorts in Belfast and a decision is expected early next year.

Father Sean McManus, director of the Irish National Caucus, an anti-British pressure group in the US, wants to stop the deal because of the company's alleged anti-Catholic bias.

"We want to stop US dollars being used to subsidize anti-Catholic discrimination in Ulster," he said yesterday after meeting senior executives.

Mr Ron McCullagh, chairman of the CBI in Ulster, said: "Wild allegations which grab the headlines will do nothing to help the unemployed, and indeed may add to their numbers."

"It is important to realize that customers of Northern Ireland exporting companies all round the world will watch the outcome of this with interest."

Shorts yesterday rejected allegations that it practised discrimination.

"We recognise the need in a divided community to take all positive steps to overcome the difficulties in attracting Catholic applicants for jobs and explained that it was for this reason that the company have agreed to take specific steps to encourage more job applications from Catholics," the company said.

Labour promises to defend pensions

By Stephen Goodwin

Labour's social security spokesman, Mr Brynmor John, accused the Government yesterday of "backtracking" on its commitments to maintain the earnings-related pension scheme in its present form.

"Any attempt to dismantle the state pension scheme will be opposed with the utmost vigour by Labour," Mr John said, in reaction to reports that Mrs Thatcher has called for a radical re-examination of state pensions.

During the election campaign, introduced by Labour through Pensions Act, 1975, as "one of the most significant advances in social security provision since the setting up of the welfare state".

He adds: "It has meant that millions of working people are now building up rights and additional earnings-related pension on top of their basic pension."

New uniforms are most at risk before constant washing has reduced the inflammability of the material.

A health department spokesman said the *Nursing Standard* report would be considered by both the DHSS and the NHS Supply Council.

working on plans which could mean an end to the scheme in its present form."

Mr John says he has several times received assurances from Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, that the Government intended no change in the state pension scheme in its present form.

During the election campaign, he wrote to the Prime Minister and received a similar assurance. Mrs Thatcher pointed out in her letter that the 1975 Act was brought onto the Statute Book with the full support of Conservative MPs.

Pensions and benefits are nevertheless the subject of continuous review at the department. The whole question of pension age is also under consideration, but officials are not aware of any special work on pensions.

Government expenditure on retirement pensions this year, including the earnings-related scheme, is expected to be around £15,000m.

Greenham dysentery confirmed

A case of dysentery has been confirmed at the Greenham Common peace camp, it was officially disclosed last night.

Opponents of the peace camp immediately called for the women's camp to be quarantined, they also want the women to be banned from shopping in Newbury town centre.

Mr Michael Blackshaw, director of environmental services for Newbury district council, confirmed last night that one of the peace women visiting the camp had contracted dysentery and was being treated in hospital. Checks were being carried out daily on the other women by health officials.

Within minutes of hearing that the outbreak had been confirmed, the leader of the Greenham Common campaign, Mrs Sheila Shredder, a retired nurse, called on officials to place the women in quarantine and said that they should not be allowed to handle food in self-service shops in Newbury.

The boy was snatched on a quiet street on Sunday evening.

The men drove him to a local beauty spot, stripped him and carried out the assault before dumping him at a road junction. He was found in a distressed state and taken to hospital.

Mrs Valerie Last, aged 36, was driving her teenage daughter home when she saw the boy, standing alone by a hedge in Newhaven, East Sussex. "He was incoherent and soaked in tears," she said.

The boy's mother told a press conference: "He was only able to give a rough description of the men. If I knew who they were, I would do time for them. I think they should be shot. They are just maniacs."

Detectives investigating the assault were checking on a child pornography ring on the South Coast which is believed to include members in the resort.

They were also making inquiries among the homosexual community and trying to trace regulars at a homosexual discotheque held on Sunday evening in Brighton.

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BMA launches inquiry into alternative forms of health treatment

By Nicholas Timmins

The British Medical Association yesterday launched an inquiry into alternative health treatments including faith healing and herbalism, with a call to doctors and lay therapists to submit information on the techniques they use.

The move comes after increasing interest among doctors and others in alternative forms of medicine, with the setting up of several centres combining traditional and alternative approaches.

The association's board of science has set up a working party that expects to take anything up to two years to report, and is calling in the first instance for information on a wide range of unconventional techniques. It will consider the feasibility and possible methods of assessing the value of alternative therapies whether used alone or to complement other treatments — some of these were examined in a series of articles in *The Times* last week.

The working party includes

Sir Douglas Black, a recent past

president of the Royal College of

Physicians and a former chief

scientist to the Department of

Health, and Professor Linford

Rees, a former president of the

Royal College of Psychiatrists.

so we believe the time is right to gather information. We want to know what alternative therapies people are using and how they believe they work."

"There is no question that certain hypnotic techniques and acupuncture techniques have been shown to work in certain circumstances. We need to know in what circumstances and to what extent they could be universally applied."

"There is a great list of things we need to look at. Some of my colleagues are critical of the fact that a lot of charlatans are involved in alternative therapies, but the fact that a charlatan is using a technique does not necessarily mean that the technique is wrong."

The idea, he said, was not to force alternative therapies into standard methods of assessment. "We want experts in these fields to tell us how they think their methods work."

Dr Richard Tonkin, who has been involved in the recent establishment of the Research Council for Complementary Medicine, said that the setting up of the working party was encouraging.

Professor James Payne, Professor of anaesthetics at London University, who is chairing the working party, said that the working party would have an open mind.

"Much success is being claimed for alternative therapy



Flying machines: The Five Ways BMX cross-country bicycle team from Brighton practising for the national BMX championships, to be held in Birmingham at the end of next month. (Photograph: John Manning).

Drug warning given to doctors

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A warning to doctors to be alert for side-effects from Osmosin, a new anti-arthritis drug, has been issued by the Committee on Safety of Medicines. The warning comes after 300 reports from doctors of patients experiencing side-effects ranging from severe headaches to perforated bowels.

General practitioners have issued more than 500,000 prescriptions since the launch of the drug last December. But the number of reports received by

biologically active component is Indometacin, which is known to have harmful interactions if taken with some other drugs.

However, Merck Sharp & Dohme, the manufacturer, claims that it is well tolerated by patients because the active ingredient in the preparation is delivered into the body slowly and at a steady rate. The company's tests showed fewer side-effects than conventional indomethacin.

In common with Opron, the anti-arthritis drug which was withdrawn last year, Osmosin is a non-steroidal preparation which was developed to avoid the adverse reactions that occur with some of the older anti-inflammatory drugs used to treat arthritic conditions. Its

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Nkomo returns from exile but refuses to engage in controversy

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

Mr Joshua Nkomo came home yesterday to a reception which was in stark contrast to the last time he returned from exile. Less than 100 supporters gathered at the airport to cheer and sing on his arrival after five months in Britain, compared with an estimated 120,000 who welcomed him back in January 1980.

Mr Nkomo, who expressed his delight at being home, said his first public task would be to appear in Parliament today to challenge a motion by the ruling Zanu (PF) Party to have his seat declared vacant.

At a press conference later, at which he dodged and parried questions on the sensitive issues of Matabeleland and guerrilla violence, he spoke of a need for a comprehensive solution to Zimbabwe's problems, but was not specific.

Spokesmen for his Patriotic Front party claimed that the low-key welcome, both at the airport and at his Harare home, was by design and intended to prevent incidents.

Mr Nkomo was accompanied on the overnight flight from London by Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the Minister of Home

Affairs, generally seen as an opponent of compromise over the rift between their respective parties. Mr Nkomo said he had had no contact with Dr Ushewokunze in London but that they had shaken hands and joked on the aircraft.

He spent more than an hour in the airport terminal being questioned by customs officials and by immigration officers about his unconventional exit from Zimbabwe on March 8 when he fled across the border to Botswana claiming his life was in danger. On emerging he was surrounded by about 60 ululating women and men chanting "Zee", the rallying cry of the Patriotic Front.

Mr Nkomo, smiling broadly and carrying the walking stick which has become his symbol, was guided to a car and driven to his second home in Harare's Highfields suburb where about 200 supporters were assembled.

The last time Mr Nkomo assembled a press conference at the house on January 29 it was to disclose massacres of his supporters by the Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland.

Yesterday he was treading

Mugabe acts to curb corruption

From Our Correspondent, Harare

Alarmed at indications of a growth in corruption and misuse of public funds, the Zimbabwe Government is to amend anti-corruption legislation to provide stiffer penalties for the guilty, including forfeiture of property to the state.

Since Mr Robert Mugabe, the former Zimbabwe High Commissioner to London, was recalled earlier this year over disclosures that he had paid £285,000 against Government instructions for a London mansion a number of such incidents have come to light.

Among those implicated are eight officials who have been charged with stealing aid meant for drought relief and the former Secretary-General of the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society who has appeared in court over an alleged £230,000 illegal foreign currency deal.

Bigger fish are still at large.

Father says he would have killed

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg

Mr Harry Mullocks, father of Mrs Maureen Smith, the London woman sentenced to death in South Africa for the murder of her husband, was prepared to kill him himself if it seemed the only way of ending his daughter's unhappy marriage, according to an affidavit submitted to the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein yesterday.

The affidavit, made in London by Mr Mullocks, who refused to give evidence at his daughter's trial in Johannesburg, formed the basis to an application by defence counsel for his evidence to be taken on commission in London and the trial reopened.

Five judges are hearing Mrs Smith's appeal against her conviction and sentence for the murder of her husband, Roger Smith, in Johannesburg last July. They are also hearing the appeals against their death sentences of the two black assassins hired to carry out the killing, Jack Ramagane and David Mgungi.

In the affidavit, Mr Mullocks said he twice refused to assist his daughter's legal advisers, at first because he was warned he might be arrested in South Africa and tried as an accomplice, and on the second occasion after being told he could face prosecution in Britain. He was convinced then that his daughter would not be sentenced to death.

On the day of the murder, he said, his daughter telephoned him and said she needed 10,000 rands (about £6,000). It was obvious this was to pay the killers, and he indicated he would release the money to his granddaughter, Miss Karen Wood.

Mr Mullocks said he believed that unless something was done to get rid of Mr Smith, who refused to give his wife a divorce. He was also furious over Mr Smith's threats to blackmail him with photocopies of documents taken from his safe.

"It is clear that I wanted Smith to be disposed of," the affidavit stated. "He was causing my daughter and granddaughter a great deal of unhappiness, and it was quite clear that he would not give his wife her freedom in the conventional way."

Later, he said, it seemed, more practical if someone in South Africa was employed to get rid of Mr Smith.

Mrs Smith and her fellow-murderers were not at the Appeal Court yesterday. Mr Mgungi, it was said, was a poor man and the offer of 10,000 rands to carry out the murder had seemed a fortune. Mr Ramagane had been threatened with losing his job as the Smith family chauffeur if he did not follow instructions.



Emphatic message: Mr Areas stating his Government's position loud and clear in Beirut.

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Professor Moshe Arens flew into Beirut yesterday with a message for President Gamalier of Lebanon. The Israeli Defence Minister did not meet the Lebanese leader, nor did he carry a written ultimatum.

The message, however, was loud and clear: Start negotiating now between the rival Christian and Druze militias in the Chouf mountains - because the Israelis are about to withdraw even if the two sides have not stopped fighting.

Mr Arens delivered his most strident comments at a press conference at Yarze, warning the Syrians not to attack the Israeli Army in the Bekaa valley and disclaiming any Israeli responsibility for the continuing savagery in the Israeli-occupied Chouf.

Then he and his advisers went to east Beirut, reportedly for talks with Mr Fadi Frem, the commander of the Christian Phalangist militia. The visit must have concentrated a few minds in the offices of the Lebanese Cabinet half a mile away.

He added: "I assure you they would be beaten very soundly if there was to be a new confrontation between the Israeli and Syrian armies."

Meanwhile, Beirut airport reopened yesterday to commercial airliners after being closed for six days.

TEL AVIV: The partial withdrawal of the Israeli Army from a 600 square kilometre area of occupied Lebanon, including the Chouf mountains, is due to begin "in a matter of days", according to Lieutenant-General Moshe Levy, the new Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces (Christopher Walker writes).



Peter Brookes

"America is the lion's heart of democracy. We have an obligation to give that democracy a voice, even an occasional roar". - President Reagan

Reagan men may take lie tests

From Christopher Thomas Washington

The FBI wants to give lie-detector tests to several senior figures as part of its investigation into how Mr Ronald Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign got hold of documents from the Carter White House.

According to *The Washington Post*, the FBI is seeking the Justice Department's permission to give such tests to Mr William Casey, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr James Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, as well as about 10 other people.

The purpose, it is said, is to resolve inconsistencies that have arisen during the investigation.

Mr Baker has said he received Carter briefing papers for the 1980 presidential campaign from Mr Casey, but Mr Casey says he does not recall seeing the papers.

Mr Casey, who directed the 1980 Reagan campaign, has denied there was an intelligence operation seeking information and documents from inside the Carter campaign team.

The Washington Post yesterday quoted an investigator as saying that "a strong, unavoidable inference" that such an operation was receiving information from somebody working for President Jimmy Carter was contained in a memorandum to Mr Casey from a Reagan aide.

After a campaign-style speech-making tour, President Reagan arrived by helicopter at his ranch in Santa Barbara, California, yesterday for a holiday.

His holiday was delayed a day or so that he could talk to war veterans about his Central American policy, his main foreign affairs preoccupation.

Mr Glenn, leading contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, appeared later on the same platform, much to the chagrin of Mr Reagan's aides.

Mr Lukianou, aged 63, was arrested while on holiday here with his family in 1968 and spent 15 years in a Soviet psychiatric institution before being released last year and subsequently tried.

Tass listed Second World War crimes for which the military court in Elista, capital of the Kalmykia autonomous republic northwest of the Caspian Sea, sentenced Mr Lukianou to death.

The article was the first reference by the Soviet news agency to Mr Lukianou, who left the Soviet Union in 1944 and became a Belgian citizen in 1967, shortly before his arrest.

Mr Lukianou was a wartime officer in the Red Army before

Peking gives Hongkong breather until 1997

Peking (Reuters) - Mr Hu Yaobang, the Communist Party leader, has made it clear that China is prepared to wait until 1997 to recover sovereignty over Hongkong.

He told a Japanese newspaper delegation yesterday that China did not recognize the treaties under which Britain governs the territory, but he said Peking intended to recover sovereignty on July 1, 1997, the day after one of the Anglo-Chinese agreements expires.

The recovery will be no sooner or later than that date, a day after the 1898 treaty will expire. (This is the treaty under which Britain leased Hongkong's New Territories for 99 years.)

"We simply respect consequences of history, although we cannot approve the unfair treaty," Western diplomats said this was the strongest sign so far that Peking does not propose to maintain Hongkong's prosperity.

According to *The Washington Post*, the special economic zone on the Hongkong border, Mr Hu said: "We will build up experience in the zone in the next 14 years so that we can maintain Hongkong's prosperity."

However, many Western businessmen regard Shenzhen as only a qualified success. Mr Hu also said that "local and foreign residents in Hongkong should feel at ease because China had a systematic policy to maintain Hongkong's prosperity."

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Referring to the Shenzhen special economic zone on the Hongkong border, Mr Hu said:

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SPECTRUM

Mayor Edward Koch, the flamboyant politician who keeps the New York show on the road, is having a tougher time these days with his increasingly critical racial minorities.

Trevor Fishlock reports on his struggle

You're not doing so good now, Ed . . .

New York

It is very hot in Harlem, even hotter in this second-floor room where bodies are packed closely together, squirming, wet-shirted and as sticky as fudge. Someone pleads into a microphone: "Cool it, brothers and sisters, cool it." Everyone is straining for a glimpse of the Chief New Yorker, Mayor Edward Koch. He's there in the thicket of cameras, lights and stick mikes. The people, mostly black, want to hear what he has to say and to make their own feelings known. They think Mayor Koch has some explaining to do.

But it is not good. There are too many people, too much noise. A crowd clamours outside, feeling cheated and saying the affair is a sham.

This is a congressional inquiry and the mayor is here with senior policemen to defend the city's police against allegations that they have a down-on-blacks and Puerto Ricans and handle them roughly. But the second layer of the matter is that the mayor's own racial and class attitudes are under scrutiny – and, by extension, so is the way he runs this monstrous and marvellous imperial capital.

"The mayor is the biggest man in town, the guy who sets the tone," a black subway worker says, "and as far as we're concerned the tone around here is not good."

The hearing has to be postponed to another day, to be moved to a larger room. The mayor is booed as he climbs into his car and people bang their fists on the bonnet. The mayor is not a man to be intimidated: he can stand the heat in the kitchen. But his natural ebullience is muted and he looks pensive. This is no time for his famous catchphrase: "How'm I doing?"

He calls out those words all the time as he ranges New York, the best-known face in the city. It is also the title of a published collection of his aphorisms. "You're doing fine, Ed," the people usually shout back. Sometimes he answers the questions himself – "How'm I doing? Terrific!" – for Mr Koch fakes nothing, certainly not modesty. But in Harlem on this steamy day the answer to "How'm I doing?" would have to be: "Not so good, Ed."

The racial question has always been in the background of his six-year mayoralty. Many blacks and Hispanics think him unsympathetic to their difficulties: unemployment, poor housing, inadequate services, Rachmanism and diminished hope. Many white liberals agree with them. There is a perception that the Koch Raj favours the middle class and that it is, at least partly, responsible for developments changing New York, particularly the crowded golden core, the island of Manhattan, mainspring of finance, business, art and creative endeavour.

What is happening is that the young and well-off are steadily colonizing areas once cheap and lower middle-class. Even on the dismal Lower East Side, where trembling marionettes of junkies buy their drugs, there are the beginnings of change.

In the centre of this rumbling conflict stands Mayor Koch, popular with the majority, assertive, flamboyant and an unashamed champion of the middle class.

"Sure I am," he said to me in his office in City Hall. "I believe in middle-class values, the work ethic, the revulsion against crime. From my first day in office I have said there is

nothing wrong with being middle class. The middle class pays the taxes and provides the jobs which provide the services for the poor. Stomp on the middle class and it will leave.

"But it's baloney to say I discriminate. Twenty-six per cent of the people here are below the poverty line and get 56 per cent of the budget. No city in the country gives so much. I am sensitive to the needs of all poor people, black or white. I was poor myself once."

Mr Koch's life has been a classic enactment of the American dream. He was born in the Bronx in 1924, the son of Polish Jewish immigrants, and knew hard times in the depression. He worked in a shoe shop to pay his way in Europe during the war and, retiring as a sergeant, started a legal career.

He entered liberal politics as a leading Greenwich Village reformer, was a civil rights worker in the deep South, opposed the Vietnam war, and was a Democrat Congressman for Manhattan for nine years. In 1977 he ran for the top job in American municipal politics and won with 48 per cent of the vote. By then his outlook had changed.

John Lindsay, one of his predecessors, made friends with rich whites and poor blacks, but had neglected the white middle class. It was to this latter group that Ed Koch made a direct appeal. He was pro-capital punishment, and called for a crackdown on crime, cuts in public spending, and an

end to racial quotas. He attacked "poverticians", a word his critics construed as blacks. He is no economic wizard and was fortunate to arrive in City Hall when New York's financial crisis, the bleak November of liberal belief in free spending on services, was already being reined.

He had both Democrat and Republican support when he ran again in 1981, and won with 75 per cent, the highest popularity rating of any mayor. He is a bachelor with a full-time commitment to public service, an occupation he considers noble.

He is a kind of metaphor for New York, being what many New Yorkers think they are: street-smart, abrasive, quick with a gag, confrontationist. His New York cadences are peppered with phrases like "it's outrageous", "baloney" and "schmuck". He runs the show and loves doing so, the best-known mayor of New York since Fiorello LaGuardia.

He gave me this assessment of himself: "I am the best salesman this city has had for a long time. Even my enemies have to agree my personality has been helpful to the city. In 1975-77 people walked around with a hangdog look and we were on the edge of bankruptcy. We've restored to New York the spunk it used to have. I'm partly a cheerleader. I'm good at communicating complicated issues in a simple way. People know I'm financially and intellectually honest." (His salary is £73,000 a year and he makes public all his finances.)

Mr Koch is tenacious and determined and has a retentive memory for slights. He doesn't often forgive: he gets even. He says he does not get ulcers because he says what he thinks: his robustness and candour have rubbed for the wrong way.

The mayor thinks the Harlem inquiry is meant, partly, as a political stick to beat him. Chicago and Philadelphia have recently elected black mayors and many blacks think New York should have one. Although the proportion of blacks and Hispanics in New York has increased, so that whites are now 52 per cent of the population, black political influence has declined. The population of Harlem, for example, rose by a third in the 1970s, but the mayor did not compensate by putting blacks into top jobs, and this can be seen as a political error.

Carol Bellamy, president of the City Council since 1977, thinks the mayor's language and attitudes have created racial tension. "Mayor Koch is a smart man who wants to make the city better, and he is in many ways reasonable and fair. But his words and attitudes have created an impression that New York does not care, and his administration is not sensitive to blacks and Hispanics."

For Miss Bellamy, sharing City Hall with Mayor Koch is never dull. She is 41 years old, and, like the mayor, comes from a working-class background, is a lawyer, single and a devoted, full-time public servant.

Real power lies in the executive office of mayor, not in the City Council. But to some extent the Council president is a loyal opposition, and Miss Bellamy sees her job as being part of the checks and balances of the administration. As for Mr Koch . . . "I'm his sparring partner. He's not always right and someone has to take him on. We've had our spats."

New York is not quite the city it was: a million people left it in the 1970s. For many of them the difficulties were too much to bear. Taxes are higher, but services are reduced. The place is dirtier, the city bureaucracy is fat. The subway works, but it is old and ramshackle and, as the mayor says, "it stinks".

Mayor Koch says: "Did you know that Mass is said in 23 languages in this city? It's the diversity that makes it electric, that gives it a special intelligence, makes you think faster, walk faster, talk faster."

It is this diversity, of course, that helps to make the mayor's toughest of jobs. Mr Koch says, in a politician's phrase, that he wants the poor to make it into the middle class (just as he did). But many of the poor are so far behind that they have difficulty getting on to the first rung.

The other day the mayor inaugurated a housing scheme for low-income people and got on well with the crowd of black people there. "Some people are trying to come between us", he told them. "Don't let them."

It was a serious Ed Koch speaking. He recognizes that his abrasiveness has upset people and can damage him politically. And he is contemplating the value of a more conciliatory approach, for a New York mayor has to be statesman as well as executive. More than any other issue, the inquiry into the police has made Ed Koch ponder on the task of running his astonishing metropolis.

moreover...
Miles Kington

Late sports special

Next Sunday, Wembley sees the oddest invasion of all: the first game of American cricket ever staged outside the United States.

Hardly known at all in this country, American cricket is a fast-growing game in its home country, where it is also known as "the grenade game", from the extra points gained for knocking out a batsman. But Harvey Mashbanger, who is promoting Sunday's big game between the Houston Tossers and the Seattle Mariners, reckons that it could catch on in a big way here, especially as we have no summer game geared to violence, like soccer or rugby.

The average cricket fan would undoubtedly recognize the kinship between the British game and its American cousin. The wickets are there, the white uniform is there and the red ball is there. Several of them actually. But he would also notice striking differences, the first being that both teams are on the field at the same time.

This is because when the bowler releases the ball, the fielders immediately charge forward with the intent of stopping the batsman hitting the ball. This can be done in a number of ways, such as by tripping him over, maiming him or even killing him. This very rarely happens because the batsmen, also, on the field, block the onrushing fielders with crumpling body tackles. It's very impressive, very structured sight – the patterns to an expert are almost beautiful."

An American cricket, as they sometimes say, a sporting equivalent of chess?

"Well, maybe. If anything, it tends to resemble that moment in a chess game when one player gets so furious that he sweeps all the pieces off the board – that's like American cricket. It's a very specialized game, of course, the batsmen who come on to field are not the same as those who bat; and even among batting batsmen there are those who specialize in hitting the ball, those who hit the bowler and those who pull up the wicket to attack the fielders if they get through."

Controversy still surrounds the 1,500-metre swimmer from Russia, Ilf Simonov, who surprised everyone by coming last but one in his semi-final. He had been fully expected to come last. Simonov, a slim, pale, slightly gaunt figure, is not everyone's idea of the average Russian runner, not to put too fine a point upon it, many people suspect Simonov of being a woman. His previous results, which are uniformly disappointing, certainly bear this out. But as sex tests have always until now been applied to women, there is no way of finding out.

At the after-match press conference one daring American journalist asked Simonov if there was any truth in the rumours that he was not as other men, and perhaps more like other women. Simonov burst into tears and said he was interested only in building world peace, also in tennis, horse-riding and knitting, and that he wanted to open a boutique in Moscow after this was all over. As he was led away, dashing at his mascara, another journalist managed to ask the Russian coach why on earth a woman would want to go in for men's events. To his surprise, the coach winked and said: "Why do you think?"

More shocks and surprises from the Americas Cup, the competition held to see whether America can change enough rules in their favour to keep the cup. The committee have ruled that Australia is not infringing the rules by having a series of champagne corks dangling by string from its keel, not indeed by throwing overboard a non-stop stream of empty lager cans during the race. The British complaint that the French boat had been fishing illegally in its waters was also overruled. A Canadian complaint was rejected because it was not bilingual.

Serious news, though, for the Latin American entry, Simon Bolivar. After a routine inspection for stowaways, the judges found a stash of cocaine worth over £2m hidden away in the bilges. This, of course, brings the weight of the boat over the permitted limit, and there may well be repercussions.

Late Results
Austral XI 0, Hinching Soles Rep 3
A South African XI 0, Not a South African XI 0

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 127)



SOLUTION TO NO 126
ACROSS: 1. Gister; 5. Safe; 8. Heavy; 9. Punquet
11. Attorney; 12. Opens; 15. Violinist; 18. Aids
19. Whistler; 22. Impasse; 23. Plain; 24. Item
25. Trousers.
DOWN: 2. Upright; 3. Try; 4. Reversal; 5. Sans
6. Picnic; 7. Final; 8. Tools; 12. Roof; 14. Dike
15. Valiant; 16. War; 17. Areas; 20. Least; 21. Beam
22. Stream; 23. Hill; 24. Beam.

ALAH

The shattering of a dream

At about 4 o'clock in the morning Fitz woke me. We washed quickly and sat for a few minutes drinking coffee, gearing ourselves up for the day ahead. I was feeling absolutely drained. For the past two years I had thought of little but this day and now it had arrived.

We returned to the shop at about six that morning. The first of the cooks were already at work and the security guards were padding through the deserted floors. There was nothing we could do except check the cleaning once again and hope that the sales girls would arrive on time. By 8 o'clock the exhausted managers had dragged themselves back in and the first trickle of other staff began. As opening hour approached Fitz and I did a last check of the floors. Everything was immaculate. Behind each counter and till stood a nervously expectant girl. We were ready to go. We went down to the ground floor where the security guards were waiting to open the door.

To our dismay we discovered that we had visitors. The directors of Dorothy Perkins, whom we had not seen for the past year while we were wrestling with the problems of the new store, were all there in their pinstripe suits. Not only that, but Mrs Roxburgh, the wife of one of them, came too, with straw hat and white gloves. She looked as if she was going to stand at the door greeting the customers.

When the doors opened, there was instant pandemonium. Almost immediately the tills were clattering and by the time we had retreated to the fifth floor, five minutes later, there was already a crowd around the snack bar.

Fitz slightly dazed, we headed for Fitz's office. We were both tired out and wanted a few moments' peace. Seated at Fitz's desk was David Roxburgh, in high spirits, heroically explaining on the telephone to the *Financial Times* how he had performed to get the store open. Seated beside him in the only other chair was his wife. They looked at us as if we were intruders. Leaving them to it, we wandered back to the crowded sales floors.

Abridged from *From A to Biba* by Barbara Hulanicki, published by Hutchinson on September 5, price £3.95.

I couldn't believe my ears. I was being pushed out

Roxburgh started to expand on his grand theory. Biba was to be "institutionalized". I had no idea what he was talking about, but as he went on I gathered that this meant that I was to have very little to do in the future. My job was to be somehow, miraculously, split up among a whole committee of nameless people. I couldn't believe my ears. I was being pushed out before anyone had any idea of even the first morning's sales.

A clerk put his head round the door and gave Fitz a piece of paper. I knew it would be the sales figure for up to 12.30. Fitz looked at the paper, showed it to me, and then handed it to Roxburgh, who had no way of knowing if the figure was good or bad. Fitz did nothing to enlighten him so in the end he had to ask. Before we open a new shop Fitz always writes down his sales

forecasts. The figure was exactly the same as the one he had predicted.

After that they seemed to want us to make mistakes, to be wrong, so that they would be able to step in. But as the days passed and Fitz's forecasts were consistently accurate, our pinstriped friends disappeared and we were left in peace for a time.

For the first six weeks everything ran like clockwork. All the departments were selling over their forecast figures, new stock was flowing in, and we were starting to relax. Then came the miners' strike and the start of the three-day working week of early 1974. At the same time the property market collapsed and the British Land share price started to crumble. Biba's sales, along with everyone else's, were badly hit and suddenly the complaints started to come pouring in. It seemed that every time John Rithblatt went on a social visit he would meet somebody who had something detrimental to say about him.

Against my better judgment I was inveigled into one last meeting with the entire Dorothy Perkins board. What were they trying to do? Why couldn't they let me go? Roxburgh flaunted my contract in my face. We had two more years to go and after that we couldn't open a shop within 50 miles of London.

All this time Fitz had been trying to raise finance to buy our business back. We couldn't have picked a worse time than the mid-1970s, with rising inflation. Most of the merchant banks had been pushed by the collapse of the property market, and London was full of ex-millionaires and people who knew Arabs.

We came so close to doing a deal with British Land that after several weeks of hard negotiation Fitz set off late one afternoon for the final meeting when the contracts would be signed. There were several solicitors and other experts in the room and at literally the last moment a technicality arose that made the deal impossible. When Fitz returned that night we knew that time was running out. Fitz carried on for a while but I bowed

at one stage I thought that Fitz was going to break his neck.

In order to humour him, we said that we would go along with his suggestions. We agreed that there was not enough information to the public in the shop. We would have "Pay Here" signs and "Cash Desk" signs, but we wanted these done in a way that was right for the feel of the shop. To me it meant we could introduce neon all over the store, which had not been used since the 1950s, and I quite liked the idea. It was all agreed at the meeting, but Rithblatt and his merry men had no intention of allowing us any involvement. Next day a lorry arrived filled full of Tesco-like white light boxes to be put up all over the store. I felt sick. Very early in the morning before anyone arrived I went and jumped up and down on the whole lot. There wasn't one bit of usable white plastic left.

It was time for me to go. I couldn't wait the destruction of that beautiful building. It was dreadful to feel so powerless. They could have it. As my parting gesture I ordered 5,000 fluorescent plastic blocks for the use of the ground floor. Let them work that out, I thought.

Against my better judgment I was inveigled into one last meeting with the entire Dorothy Perkins board. What were they trying to do? Why couldn't they let me go? Roxburgh flaunted my contract in my face. We had two more years to go and after that we couldn't open a shop within 50 miles of London.

Fitz rang me. "We've lost," he said. "I'm coming home." In the past I sometimes imagined that someone had come and taken Biba away from me. After it happened, and Biba was no longer mine, I came across a Biba cosmetics stand in Paris at a *port à porter* show. The stand looked awful and I longed to go and tidy it up for them. The man on the stand wore gold chains around his neck, his shirt undone to his navel. The sales girl looked cheap and tarty. They were trying to imitate Biba but had got it all wrong, and there was nothing I could do about it except walk away. It really hurt. I still feel it today.

My own ambition in life is to buy back the bones of Biba and let the poor old girl rest in peace.

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مکانات الائچی

WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY

The wages of son
is Darth

First the bad news: my daughter, having attained the age of five, reckons she is now in line for pocket money, and opens the talks with a rock-solid bargaining posture: "Eighty quid a day?" Now the worse news: one of her birthday presents was a typewriter, and even as I scribble, I can hear from below the plastic clacking of the Billington Junior International. I understand she is writing a diary - "for The Times, you know" - so perhaps we had better treat the following as valedictory entries. It has been fun, but youth must be given its head, I suppose.



(16d a throw), but I quash my scepticism. Suddenly I am a Keynesian, and quite happy to spend my way out of trouble.

"My daughter threatens to come up to *The Times* and watch the sandwiches go round". How very disingenuous. She is bent on cementing useful contacts, and I am bluffed if I am going to abet her.

Better news yet: she has completed her first column, which I here quote in full: "Dear gyles please come to my party nest yere". I agree, there is a certain frankness. I agree, but if that's 800 words, then I'm Joanna Lumley.

Still better, the Billington Junior International has broken. The tiny tape, through which she has drabbed all manner of seductive prose, is sundered from the reel, and I cannot, in all honesty, fix the thing. She is "going up to *The Times* to complain".

Memo to Charles Douglas-Hamilton: "Watch out".

The Junior Mint has arrived. I was expecting it to land with the portentous thud of new plant, but the thing has fluttered down onto the mat with the rest of the final demands. Before you can say treasury forecast my daughter is creating wealth at the breakfast table. The rival claimant wants a slice of the action, and a terrible fight ensues. There is milk and All Bran all over the carpet. John Wayne would have approved.

Return from work to find the front room awash with pristine currency. Daughter husbanding same with the smug glow of a self-made millionaire. Tremendous projections for spending in the public (ie. family) sector, starting with a major lido on the site of the old compost heap and a loft conversion to house "the next five babies".

Her husband, Trevor, was also devastated. "We didn't talk about it in any reasonable way. We were too busy trying to comfort each other, just trying to let it sink in", Lynne said. "The gynaecologist explained that my situation was unusual. He said that cancerous cells were normally on the surface of the cervix, or took the line of least resistance towards the outside. In my case they appeared to have gone the other way, actually in towards a more muscular area. The cone biopsy hadn't gone deep enough. He didn't believe it until he looked through the microscope himself."

Concerned that she would need so much time off work, Lynne offered to leave her job with an architect's

Now the worse worse news: my son has got a leak - I wonder where from - about the pay bargaining situation and has slapped in an admittedly moderate parity bid: "Eight pence and a cowboy sword". A thought: if Richmond's Jean Rooklet brings her project to fruition, I could always fund her cash demand through the image fee. No, she'd never wear it.

No doubt believing that unity is strength, the two supplicants demand a tripartite meeting, to which I agree.

In the sense that he is playing Gormley to her Scargill, there appears to have been an inversion of the age differential.

My daughter cites Morgan Prewitt, that most unstable of six-year-olds, as a precedent in the cash grant controversy. He, I am told, is in receipt of "millions of pounds a day" to keep him in Darth Vader masks and all the other accoutrements of today's fighting child. I am tempted to explain that he only gets his way by throwing a Morsom, to which his mother, silly creature, always responds by showering him with pound notes as profuse as autumn leaves. I desist however, fearing a proliferation of such guerrilla tactics.

At last the good news: my daughter has discovered - I don't know where - a bottomless source of revenue. It is called The Junior Mint. You simply feed a blank paper betwixt a cylinder and out comes a £50 note. It reminds me of those Ellison Novelty bargains of my own youth

ices and artfully cut slices of fruit, berries and leaves beautifully arranged on a flat plate. Just as pretty though, and the reason my window-box geraniums and begonias are looking short of leaves these days, is an arrangement which is much easier to assemble. For each person arrange three or four leaves on a plain dessert plate. Top each leaf with a small heap of berries, say strawberries on one, raspberries on another, blackberries on the third. Then set a stemmed glass in the centre and fill it with a scoop or two of one or more fruit sorbets.

Those savoury ices too, can be incorporated into extravagantly pretty dishes. Instead of fruit and the geranium leaves, set out a selection of traditional first course ingredients - smoked salmon or trout. Then add a scoop of one or

of real men don't eat quiche it is a cert that not many will go it a bundle on savoury ices either. But how about a Bloody Mary sorbet, icy, spicy and stunning? Or a snow of cucumber and creamy yogurt spiked - like that wonderfully refreshing Indian yogurt drink a salt lassi - with fresh green ginger, spring onions and lemon juice? Smoother and richer is a blend of ripe avocado, cream and mayonnaise seasoned with garlic and lemons. And not strictly savoury but at home in this company, a fragrant ice made with the heavily perfumed pinky-gold flesh of a fully ripe charentais melon and dry white wine.

*One of the prettiest dishes in every nouvelle cuisine chef's repertoire has been an *assiette de sorbets* - spoonfuls of fruit*

Cancer is a disease that strikes fear into the hearts of everyone
Annette Gartland met one woman who is fighting it... and winning

Lynne Pemberton was told last winter that she had cancer of the cervix - the neck of the womb. This January she underwent a radical Wertheim's hysterectomy where the uterus, cervix, ovaries, fallopian tubes and lymph nodes in the area are removed. She hopes that relating her experience, and feelings, might help other women struck by the disease.

"The cancer sufferers you hear about are generally very optimistic and positive," she says. "At times I am, but I find it very difficult. I tend to be rather introspective and pessimistic, which colours my feelings about the future." Lynne's fear that she might have cancer began when a routine smear test last summer revealed an abnormality in cervical cells, and she was referred for further examination. This showed the need for a cone biopsy - a method of coring out cervical tissue for testing, which may totally remove the changing cells.

Lynne, who is 33 and lives in Kingston, Surrey, was frightened about going to hospital and worried that she might not come safely through the operation. But she did think that the operation would be the end of the story, that nothing more serious would be found. But on her birthday, the hospital gynaecologist telephoned to explain as gently as possible that she had a "real cancer" and would lose her uterus.

"I was completely numb. Before the phone went down I was in tears and sure I was going to die. The first thing I thought of was, I can't have children. The fact that it was cancer probably hit me about 30 seconds later."

Her husband, Trevor, was also devastated. "We didn't talk about it in any reasonable way. We were too busy trying to comfort each other, just trying to let it sink in", Lynne said. "The gynaecologist explained that my situation was unusual. He said that cancerous cells were normally on the surface of the cervix, or took the line of least resistance towards the outside. In my case they appeared to have gone the other way, actually in towards a more muscular area. The cone biopsy hadn't gone deep enough. He didn't believe it until he looked through the microscope himself."

Concerned that she would need so much time off work, Lynne offered to leave her job with an architect's

practice in Richmond, Surrey. The partners refused to accept her resignation and suggested that she should work when she could.

"It is silly, but you think I've always been healthy, not terribly fit but eating sensibly, not overdoing anything, not drinking too much, so why should it be me? Every few days I would suddenly think 'I'm dreaming, I'll wake up to find this isn't happening'."

Lynne had radiotherapy twice before the hysterectomy - an uncomfortable experience, but not frightening because it was so well explained. The worst part was when capsules of cesium which had been implanted under general anaesthetic and left in place for about 22 hours, were removed. She laughs, recalling the nurses extracting what seemed like miles of wadding. She also had a lymphogram, which checks on any spread of cancer to the lymph system.

The lymphogram was clear - her first good news in months.

Between radiotherapy sessions, Lynne pushed herself to take her final professional examination in architecture. "It was a very traumatic time. Until the week before, I thought I would drop out." She and Trevor also decided to marry after living together for nine years, feeling that they could support each other better. Going into hospital for the hysterectomy, Lynne felt very frightened - about the pain and about dying.

She had expected to suffer quite severe, sharp pain afterwards. In fact, she experienced discomfort when moved and felt extremely bloated. She is glad to have declined her boss's offer to help pay for private treatment, which would have meant being in a room alone. The "tremendous" atmosphere in the Kingston Hospital ward helped. "I don't think I laughed so much in years. We all knew the most intimate details about each other and managed to laugh about almost everything that happened."

For about six weeks after the operation, movement was painful and slow, and Lynne was extremely tired. She mostly "marched up and down, drank water and slept". It must be hell, she says, for women with children to look after.

Lynne now receives hormone therapy, as the removal of ovaries ends the natural supply. She is distressed by the fact that she cannot



Lynne Pemberton with her husband: they married to give one another more support

have children. It is too early, she says, to consider adoption.

"Even though they've given me the maximum possible chance of nothing else happening, I'm not really convinced. I have to tell myself that I'm likely to be around in 20 years time."

Lynne felt that everyone who dealt with, or looked after her was "really wonderful". She felt well-informed. But she believes there could have been more explanation about the physical reaction to a hysterectomy and perhaps some printed information about the operation. There could also have been more advice about life in the ensuing months, like a simple

reminder that you would need very large clothing until the swelling subsides.

The speed and upset of events meant that Lynne did not contact any people or organizations for support. If she had been given a list of names and addresses she might have done so.

She is now very aware of having put things off in the past. When she felt "invulnerable" in terms of health she had a view of the future, stretching ahead, which she did not have to define. She feels differently now. "A positive approach has to come from me. It's in a way part of the healing process. The more time elapses, the more optimistic I feel."

malignant cells are found early, treatment can be quick and effective.

There is evidence of a link between cervical cancer and herpes. And scientists have discovered an association between genital warts and the cancer. British research has shown the DNA of a genital wart virus present in 58 per cent of patients with pre-malignant lesions of the cervix. There are, however, arguments that the wart viruses are not directly involved but merely passengers in cancer cells.

The Women's National Cancer Control Campaign, 1 South Audley Street, London W1, 01-499 7332, can provide contacts, advice and support for women who discover they have cervical cancer.

How screen tests can save lives

Cervical cancer kills more than 2,000 women in Britain each year. Older women are more at risk as the disease usually takes seven to ten years, or more, to develop. But over the past decade the number of women under 35 dying each year from cervical cancer has doubled to more than 170.

It is not the most common gynaecological cancer, however.

Cancer of the ovaries kills twice as many women. And, by comparison, 12,000 women die in Britain each year from breast cancer. Cervical cancer counts for four per cent of all cancers in women. In 1978 there were more than 4,000 new cases in Britain.

Women who have intercourse when they are young, have many

sexual partners or multiple venereal infections have a high risk of contracting cervical cancer. There is also evidence that there are high-risk males, according to Dr Dulcie Coleman, consultant cytopathologist at St Mary's Hospital in London. Partners of women with cervical cancer often had other partners who developed the disease.

More than two million cervical smear tests are performed in Britain each year, but screening has failed to reduce mortality. Dr Coleman cites the error rate in the test itself as one factor.

In areas such as Iceland and British Columbia in Canada where comprehensive screening takes place, the incidence of cervical cancer has been considerably re-

duced. In Finland, where the programme reaches 90 per cent of women between 30 and 59, cases of cervical cancer have halved. In Norway, where there is no national screening programme, incidence has increased by 15 per cent since 1965.

Alice Burns, health programmes manager for the Women's National Cancer Control Campaign, said: "Any sexually active woman should have smear tests every three to five years."

Pre-malignant changes in the cervix are detected in about 1.5 per thousand women in Britain. A positive smear test, however, does not necessarily mean cancer, but that some cells are changing or have changed. The test is intended to pick up any abnormality. When pre-

malignant cells are found early, treatment can be quick and effective.

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THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

ices and artfully cut slices of fruit, berries and leaves beautifully arranged on a flat plate. Just as pretty though, and the reason my window-box geraniums and begonias are looking short of leaves these days, is an arrangement which is much easier to assemble. For each person arrange three or four leaves on a plain dessert plate. Top each leaf with a small heap of berries, say strawberries on one, raspberries on another, blackberries on the third. Then set a stemmed glass in the centre and fill it with a scoop or two of one or more fruit sorbets.

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TALKBACK

Judging the shoplifters

From Mr Philip Joseph, Books Etc, Charing Cross Road, London, WC2. Quite correctly, Mrs Williams (Friday Page, July 22) asks for a more humane approach to suspected shoplifters. But then goes on to request supermarkets to adopt greater willingness to assess a person's background before deciding to prosecute.

We run a small chain of bookshops and employ staff to try to deter shoplifting and security staff to catch shoplifters. We put notices stating All Thieves Will Be Prosecuted. This we do regardless of age, sex or background.

We do not know how to tackle the question of a person's background. What are the factors we should take into account? The vast majority of people we arrest admit their guilt and inform us they have never done anything like it before.

We are not qualified to judge a person's background. It is our duty to present the facts and it is the responsibility of the courts to decide on such matters.

Front Nicholas Moss, Marine Avenue, North Ferriby, Humberside. In her article on shoplifting Veronica Grocock included part of a Home Office report Theft in Shops.

Among recommendations in the report, as a means to protect the sick and elderly from the experience of prosecution for shoplifting, is an alternative to the criminal charge of theft: "Taking goods without authority and without making payment".

While the report's motives are entirely laudable, the implication of this is to create what amounts to two-tier dishonesty, pure unadulterated dishonesty dealt with by the Theft Act and a second grade dishonesty to be explained away thus: "That doesn't really count... it was only taken from a shop". While not condoning dishonesty, shops must bear some of the responsibility for displaying goods in such a way that their removal, whether theft or accident, continues to grow.

Kill or cure?

From John R Skyles, Denning Road, Dennington, Hampshire. Joanne Bower (Wednesday Page, August 3) asks the question: where does one draw the line between animal experiments which are beneficial and those which are not?

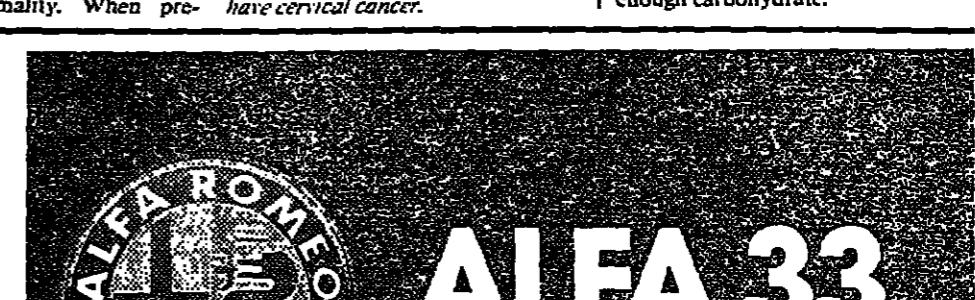
Should we be concerned for human welfare we must ask the question of any new proposed control on vivisection: What would have been the consequences on present day medicine if such control had been made effective 30 years ago?

I am scared of moralists. Especially those whose beliefs if they had been the norms of the past would have left us defenceless against the horrors which filled Victorian and Edwardian hospitals.

Smokescreen

From Rosalyn Stephens, Albert Road, Clevedon, Avon. The letter from Helen Signy (Friday Page July 29) reminds me of an occasion some years ago in West Africa, when I was invited to visit an exhibition on dietetics.

Illustrations for the different stands had been culled from various sources and included one of then current advertisements for, I think, Abdullah cigarettes, showing a group of sly-looking men and women in evening dress. The caption read: "You see these people? They are lean and ugly through not taking enough carbohydrate."



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**THE TIMES
DIARY**

Home and dry

It is a pity that the appointment of Admiral Sir James Eberle as director-designate of the Royal Institute of International Affairs should start with a logistical lapse. I bet he runs a tighter ship when he takes over in January. As it was the announcement did not arrive until the embargo on it had past, and Sir James, having stayed by the phone all Monday afternoon, was out and about on his Devon sheep farm yesterday when the calls came through. My own ignorance (Eberle was the only short-listed candidate I failed to identify) was not widely shared. My mention of an admiral provoked in some circles the reaction: "Must be Eberle. Only intellectual the Navy's got". Indeed the C-in-C Naval Home Command took a defence fellowship at Oxford, 1970-71, and is co-author of a book on the management of defence. Formerly Allied C-in-C Channel and Eastern Atlantic, Eberle has a special interest in European-American relationships (on which he lectured in America earlier this year) and all the right contacts in both continents. No wonder that he sailed in, really.

Bravo!

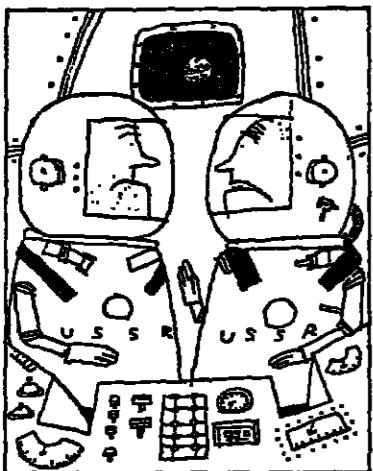
Before Sir Geoffrey Howe meets the Spanish Foreign Minister to discuss Gibraltar again next month, the Anglophile Spanish mayor of Palamós on the Costa Brava has come up with a novel suggestion. Dr Francesco Dalmat, who left Franco's Spain via Gibraltar in 1941 and served with the British army from Normandy to the battle of the Ardennes, says we should return Gibraltar to the Spaniards at once. The only condition, he says, should be that the rest of Spain is ceded to Britain.

I see from the Royal Engineers' Journal that recent additions to the RE Museum include an "RAF night/transition meal offered during flight from Falklands", presented by Major S. C. L. Hobden. I suppose he did not fancy it.

Interval

At the closing concert of the Three Choirs Festival in Gloucester Cathedral on August 27, Julian Lloyd-Webber will be playing a piece by Vaughan Williams not heard in public for 53 years on an instrument not known to have been played in public since 1909. His revival of the *Fantasia of Sussex Folk Tunes*, played by Casals when Vaughan Williams received the Royal Philharmonic Society's gold medal in 1930 and never performed since, happens to coincide with his first performance on the Barjansky Strad, for which he recently paid £12,500 at Sotheby's. The instrument was sent for auction by anonymous owners after a long sojourn in a Brussels bank vault.

BARRY FANTONI



High dudgeon

Lord Parmoor is incensed that police have seized books on the cultivation of cannabis and psilocybe mushrooms under the Obscene Publications Act. This, Parmoor says, is flagrant and dangerous abuse of a law "which was never intended to cover horticulture, a topic more easily distinguished from pornography than would be, for example, Liberalism". Parmoor takes the SDP whip in the Lords, but regrettably has no plan to pursue his argument there. Though he succeeded to his title in 1977, he has yet to make his maiden speech.

Here is another announcement. On an internal flight of Nigerian Airways, Peter Harman Jones heard: "We are now approaching Lagos airport. The captain and crew wish you a safe landing."

No wall painting

Frances Draper, a west London painter, tells me she portrayed Nicholas Freeman, the leader of Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council, standing in front of the half-timbered Kensington Old Town Hall. She wrote to Freeman offering him the picture for £400. He replied thanking her, but regretting that modesty forbade him displaying pictures of his achievements on his office wall. The letter, at least, was more prettily turned than the wreckers' bill he sent in to do the damage.

Among the predictions ascribed to the Royal Society of Medicine in the *Osmi Future Almanac*, coming shortly, is the conquest by 1985 of tension and anxiety, and by "2000 or sooner", that of aggression. I do hope it is sooner rather than later with aggressive control, because according to the book, the countries capable of launching nuclear strikes by that time will include, in alphabetical order, Argentina, Chile, Iran and Libya.

P.H.S.

Will the great survivor do a deal?

As Joshua Nkomo faces the Zimbabwe parliament after his return from self-imposed exile in Britain, Stephen Taylor asks if he will now allow Robert Mugabe his one-party state

Harare Joshua Nkomo's third and shortest political exile has ended in return to his native Zimbabwe and to a series of political and personal problems which are no more resolved than when he fled across a remote stretch of the Botswana border in March.

Now, as then, Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front party stands accused of fomenting insurrection in the troubled western province of Matabeleland. The rift between his supporters and those of Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, is as wide as ever. Nothing visible has been done to put the poor personal relations between the two men on a level of better understanding, and possible police charges which Mr Nkomo believed were a threat to his liberty are still on file.

At the time he fled Zimbabwe he had been questioned by police about his allegations that government forces, motivated by political and tribal antagonism, had in January and February systematically slaughtered Ndebele peasants in the territory which makes up Mr Nkomo's political power base. Although that claim has since been widely echoed by church and voluntary organizations, it was indicated then that Mr Nkomo might be charged under the Law and Order Maintenance Act with bringing the authorities into disrepute. Formerly Allied C-in-C Channel and Eastern Atlantic, Eberle has a special interest in European-American relationships (on which he lectured in America earlier this year) and all the right contacts in both continents. No wonder that he sailed in, really.

It is difficult to imagine a

politician of Mr Nkomo's shrewdness returning in such circumstances without having received some form of indemnity from the authorities. He returns to find the political party he founded in 1961 thoroughly disorganized and demoralized. The grassroots have been uprooted, probably with permanent damage, by military savagery in Matabeleland. One MP and a number of central committee members are still in detention while others are in exile. Josiah Chinamanu, the kindly but ineffectual deputy who acted in Mr Nkomo's absence, has failed to provide leadership or direction.

Mr Nkomo's own considerable flaws as a leader have contributed to the party's decline. He has undermined and discouraged rivals. He failed at an early stage adequately to dissociate the party from the guerrilla activity with which it consequently became tainted. Most dangerously, after his dismissal from the cabinet in February last year, he withdrew in a huff from day-to-day political life until the Matabeleland massacres briefly brought him back to the centre of the stage.

It must be highly questionable whether the elder statesman of Zimbabwean nationalism, who turned 66 in exile – and appears to have added pounds to his portly frame in London – has the energy or will to contribute much to further political developments.

There is some acceptance, even in Zimbabwe now, that Mr Nkomo has no control of the Matabeleland guerrillas whose cause the government has accused him of secretly sponsoring. In fact Mr Nkomo is rejected as a "sell out" by those who have taken up arms, however haphazardly, in the cause of Ndebele nationalism and there is probably no individual who could call in the guerrillas from the bush. Dumiso Dabengwa, a former Zipra commander acquitted of treason in April, is sometimes mentioned in such a role, but the martyrdom he has gained among the rebels because of his continued detention would soon evaporate if he cooperated with the government.

What Mr Nkomo still has that Mr Mugabe might want is the authority to agree a merger between their

parties. The Prime Minister has frequently stated in the past that such a step is necessary on the road to his goal of one-party rule. Mr Nkomo's objection was probably the primary cause of the rift between Mr Mugabe's Zanu (PF) and the Patriotic Front in 1982. Having initially paid lip-service to the suggestion, he balked when he and the party would be submerged.

The basis for further talks has been revived in Mr Nkomo's absence with meetings between three-man committees of each party which started in April; although nothing substantive has been established.

Privately, some Patriotic Front members confess their belief that "Father Zimbabwe" is a spent force politically only if he is able to achieve conciliation with Mr Mugabe. But respect for Mr Nkomo's place in the history of the nationalist struggle here embraces not only his supporters but some quarters of Zanu (PF) too. Age and the ability to survive adversity carry weight in African society and Mr Nkomo is nothing if not a survivor.

An unlikely tribute came recently from the Rev Ndabangi Sithole, his main political rival until the rise of Mr Mugabe, who said of Mr Nkomo's exile: "Kenya might as well have rejoiced if Jomo Kenyatta had had to flee Kenya for personal safety."

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Marking the spot for the axe

I trust that Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is enjoying a restorative holiday. For when he returns to work next month he will need to have his faculties and resilience about him. Early autumn, the season of this public spending review, is always the climax of the Chief Secretary's year, and 1983 promises to be as tough as any.

Last week Lord Carrington denounced the Treasury's perennial search for candle-ends. "These continual percentage cuts", he told the watching world on Channel 4, "do infinitely more damage to what you are trying to do in terms of reasonable saving." The time had come, he thought, for the Treasury and the Government generally "to look at cutting out a function in government rather than cheese-paring on the things that really are essential".

We all have some favourite candidates for the axe. For my part I have always regarded the subsidies given to capital-intensive refineries and the like, which would either go ahead without them or which would only add to over-capacity, as particularly silly. But that is chicken-feed at best.

In the end the Treasury has got to look to the big battalions – and that means defence and social security, which together account for not far short of half the total.

Thanks to the commitment to NATO's 3 per cent "real" growth target – and the Falklands – defence spending has been growing faster than any other programme apart from social security. And as President Reagan has discovered, high spending on defence immensely complicates the task of finding acceptable economies elsewhere. The 3 per cent commitment still has another year to go, which will make it difficult to bring out much next year. But I was delighted to read in Monday's *Times* of Nigel Lawson's resolve to block its renewal. He might remind his colleagues that it was none other than that great warrior Winston Churchill, when Chancellor of the Exchequer, who devised the best curb on military appetites – the "no war for 10 years" formula – in the 1920s.

When you turn to social security the real nightmare is the cost of pensions. I don't begin to know the answer. Since the principal cause of all the trouble is simply that we are all living longer, the logical solution would be to raise the pensionable age. Against the current background of unemployment, that does not look easy. But nor does disconnecting the value of the pension from the cost of living index. And while the only other radical solution – to raise the scale of contributions to the National Insurance fund – might increase the room to manoeuvre with taxes, such a switch would hardly impress anyone. There's no very good reason why it should.

Still, the long-term cost of retirement is, or ought to be, an essential part of the true study of government, and it is good news that the Prime Minister is not being put off by the sort of scare stories that such scrutiny of basics invariably provokes. Nor that that is going to be much help to Mr Rees this autumn.

The author was Chief Secretary to the Treasury in Mrs Thatcher's last government

Peter Lennon

A sure thing for the petropunters

DUBLIN

The warning by the Irish Minister of Industry last week that the prospect of oil in abundance could "take too firm a grip on people's imagination" came too late. The people were already spending their imaginary petrodollars and staking their future on this glorious potential windfall.

As a reader writing to the *Irish Times* suggested, Ireland had found a new kind of unity. "We are all loyalists now," he declared.

Few ordinary people are ever likely to see any of the lolly from this, the 73rd and first commercially promising offshore drilling operation, although, by playing the Stock Exchange, a few of the more florid liquor must be an essential adjunct to oil exploration, and perhaps the occasional coffin, too. No doubt Mr Falconer will wade up and discover what other contribution he can make to hasten the day the black stuff gushes ashore.

There are some fears, of course. The Mayor of Waterford has warned against the arrival of "black ladies of the night". Only here could the reference be to pigmentation of the soul and not the skin. And there is concern for Waterford's beaches.

Some are a little shame-faced that they should be so eager to despoil these glinting seas and the extraordinary evening stillness for a 10-year flirritation with a glistening mess, and in an area where bed and breakfast is still only seven Irish pounds, others wonder what effect the concomitant curiosity will have on the locals.

There is apprehension that, like EEC membership, which was to make the farmers' millionaires but left them prisoners to banks or bankrupts, this might turn out in the end to be another massive fiasco.

Of course, there has been something like this before; in 1980 when BP's field at Porcupine Bay off Galway was said to contain up to 300 million barrels of recoverable oil and Charles Haughey gambled a new economic strategy on it. The optimists are also mentally reviving this field.

The Irish believe they are particularly blessed, since never before have oil sat so close to land in more obligingly tame and lukewarm water. Revisiting it, the story goes, will present no discomfort. You could almost stand on the beach and spoon it ashore.

Although the pipeline should logically go ashore at Cork, which already has a refinery, one man determined to get a bit of the action is Mr Jim Falconer, of Waterford. A brief study of Mr Falconer's capacity for rational planning suggests that if there are any bits going, they will go his way.

Mr Falconer is an undertaker. His

Bernard Levin at Bayreuth, part 2

A sand-blast and polish by a master

Why do we do it? That was the question I asked yesterday, at considerable length, in discussing the new *Ring* at Bayreuth, conducted by Georg Solti and directed by Peter Hall. Why do we put up with the discomfort, the expense, the promote-itis all round us, the

rightful delirium in the programme-book (this year's operatic Gibberish Prize was won effortlessly by Claude Lévi-Strauss – how did that man acquire a reputation even in our gullible age?), the monstrous demands made upon our time and

the communists states (workers) and the inertia of central planners. Hungary was the only country to follow through. It began tentatively after the 1956 uprising against the Russians. In 1957 profit-sharing was established, compulsory delivery quotas in agriculture were abolished and industry was relieved of the need to submit monthly reports to higher authorities. Over the next years, workers' rights to share in factory profits were expanded and formalized and in 1968 the Hungarian leadership introduced the New Economic Mechanism. This shifted power from the centre to individual factory managers. Investment decisions to a large degree were left up to the factories, the right to trade on an individual basis with the West was established, as was the right to retain a large part of profit. Small-scale private enterprise was encouraged (workers are allowed to lease part of their factory space to produce goods after hours that can be sold privately) and prices were designed to move up and down to reflect relative scarcity.

In short, welcome to capitalism. The model has done much of what it set out to do: growth rates increased steadily, the standard of living was high and Hungary was regarded as a useful partner by many countries in the West. It became a member of the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other capitalist clubs. But to make a socialist economy sensitive not only to domestic but also western customers entails a degree of vulnerability to international trends. The western recession has hit Hungary – shown above all by its liquidity crisis last year – and it is suffering from flagging demand for its industrial exports, lower prices for its food exports, energy shortages, debt servicing difficulties and a growth in national income this year that will be scarcely enough to cover the losses in foreign trade.

Yet none of these problems invalidates the Hungarian reform: on the contrary they have shown its strength. Inflation, for example, is about seven per cent, but unemployment is still manageable. So far the vices of the West have been kept at bay. But to transfer the Hungarian

"miracle" to other communist states is a dangerous business. What appear to be minor flaws in the malleable Hungarian system may well be magnified a hundredfold when the methods are adopted, say, by Poland. Hungary has an efficient agriculture, can feed itself, this still cannot be said of most communist countries. It has no tradition of worker unrest in the manner of Solidarity, its Catholic Church is not a platform of criticism, its leader, Janos Kadar, has no clear rival.

Hungary can, after 15 years of economic reform, afford to risk a further political relaxation. But can Moscow? Can Prague? There the formula seems to be that of cautious edging towards economic change – but keeping tight ideological control on the country lest something nasty creep out of the woodshed. In the Kremlin it may well seem that economic reform plus political repression adds up to orderly change. In Budapest they know that this is not so: reform tempered by repression is a contradiction in terms, a recipe only for further stagnation and factional infighting.

In a modest, gentle sort of way the Hungarians explain this to their fraternal visitors, but the language of market socialism, like that of Hungarian, is a difficult one for orthodox Marxists.

Roger Boyes

Manfred Jung. The trouble with Jung is the same as the trouble with Siegmund Niemann, the chosen Wotan: we know the furthest inch of which they are capable, and there was no chance that either would around us, as Hildegarde Behrens did with her Brünnhilde. So the scene continues for the two other legs of the tripod on which every *Ring* must stand, and it is a measure of the pight in which Wagner conducts live that among the names being bandied about for Siegfried was Plácido Domingo; why, if I had offered to sing the part myself I could have found a dozen people willing to put me on their list before the end of the interval.

In addition to Behrens, who sang with an amplitude and beauty of tone that made it difficult to believe that this was her first *Ring*, there were only two really outstanding voices: Aage Haugland as Hagen and Jeanine Altmeyer as Sieglinde, *proxime accessus* for a future Brünnhilde herself. Not enough; all now rested on Solti's shoulders.

His reading was fast (at the end of

Act I of *Götterdämmerung* I thought my watch must have stopped, for he took only 1 hr 50 mins, which may be a record), yet although it was full of intensity and force it never seemed hurried, so perfectly paced was it. The spring of nervous energy in Solti's Wagner is now completely flexible, a servant not a master, and the consequence is that it is impossible to imagine better conducting in the *Ring* that he has given us here, or for that matter better playing than he succeeded in drawing from the invisible orchestra.

The climaxes surged forth in all

their splendour – the end of



Well fed, well dressed. Saturday shoppers in Budapest, the communist capital with a Parisian sense of style

wrapped, knowing all the while that those who have not experienced it will not understand, and those who have experienced it will not need to understand. And very rarely indeed have I felt the experience as I just have in Bayreuth.

The greatest coup was in the final bars of *Die Walküre*. For Act III, Hall and Dudley had reverted to the tilting platform that has unfortunately become standard for producing of the *Ring* in recent years. (The Valkyrie sisters had to be anchored when it swung vertically, and Brünnhilde, poor girl, was at one point strapped upside-down beneath it, waiting – for two and a half minutes – until it turned right over and allowed her to get her circulation back.) When the platform first appeared, a groan of protest seemed in order, but it was stifled on my lips and indeed I was unable to make a sound of any kind, by what happened just before the curtain fell.

Wotan has laid his beloved, erring daughter to rest, and summoned Loge to guard her with fire. The ring of red is unbroken around her, and the flames that dim night's candles in the velvet darkness above her are depicted in the music, bearing the way to all but the fearless hero who is to awaken her. Wotan, with infinite, resigned pity and regret, strides out of the magic circle and out of the scene. And at that moment the whole platform, with the sleeping heroine clad in her finery of fire, took off like some great space-ship, and went sailing up the sky so that she might sleep, fitfully, among the stars. I knew then the quality of this *Ring* for all seasons, and I knew also exactly why we who love the work do so.

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GOING PRIVATE

A few years ago Mr Benn promised this country a "massive and irreversible shift" in the location of economic power. Today there is, indeed, the prospect of an important change in the pattern of ownership and control. It could well be massive and may prove irreversible. But it will be very different in character from that intended by Mr Benn. Instead of more nationalization and socialization, many industries now in state hands are to pass into private ownership.

At present comment is focused on the proposed sale of 31 per cent of British Telecom; in this instance there is one dominant supplier and no declared intention of changing the position. Critics have asked, with reason and force, what purpose is served by converting a publicly owned monopoly into a privately owned one. There is a danger that, by failing to think through the purpose of privatization, the Government may become entangled in a protracted debate about British Telecom and so lose momentum in other areas.

Two kinds of privatization need to be distinguished. The first is the sale of state assets in an industry where there already are – or, at least, potentially could be – several competitors. The second is in the contrasting circumstances where, for technological reasons, there can be only one supplier. There is a powerful case for privatizing natural monopolies – such as British Telecom – which come into this second category, but it is less obvious than the case for privatizing competitive industries. The economic aspects, in particular, are most clear and persuasive when competition prevails.

If there are many suppliers of a good or a service, rivalry between them ensures that output will expand until a point is reached at which price matches the extra cost of production. As a further increase in output beyond this point would lead to lower prices and higher costs, the suppliers would suffer losses. So the further increase in output does not take place and instead resources are allocated to another industry where, once again, competition will establish the right balance between prices

RETHINK ON THE RHINE

The defence review now in progress has considered British strategy outside the Nato area, but has yet to contemplate the political and military tangle on Nato's central front. It would be tempting to the cost-accountants in the defence world to assume that the Falklands crisis was a national aberration; but most strategists know that it is always the unpredictable event which occurs first. Moreover the very strength of Nato's central front, upon which the security of the United Kingdom ultimately depends, has induced Soviet outflanking manoeuvres and proxy operations in many other trouble spots throughout the world. It would be an unwise general who failed to guard his flanks and rear, and that precaution should be the basis of Britain's evolving strategy, particularly since it should coincide with a financial need to question the undue fixation with Nato's central front which has turned Britain's Rhine Army into a strategic untoouchable.

Britain's overall contribution to Nato far exceeds that of her allies, both financially and in terms of the range of military capability. Any sensible basis of cost sharing and operational burden sharing would see that the British contribution should be concentrated in the maritime area, while the continental forces would come mainly from West Germany and its neighbours. Instead we have the West German Navy, which should anyway concentrate its skills on the Baltic, wasting resources acquiring an Atlantic capability, which is already met by the British and, to some extent, by the Dutch.

There is no operational logic in the strategy of forward defence in West Germany, which

is persisted with for political reasons which now need revaluation. The consequence of this is that Britain has no flexibility about the deployment of her army-in-being, which is predominantly bogged down guarding every forward inch of a sixty-three kilometre front. That front would be more appropriately defended by West German forces who defend the rest of the line. The British Corps could then be positioned as a tactical reserve for the whole of Northern Army Group.

There would be two advantages in such a change. The first would be that it would dissolve the tactical rigidities imposed on Nato's military thinking by the forward defence strategy. The second is that Britain could then make perfectly legitimate savings in the cost of her standing contribution to land forces in Central Europe without affecting the day-to-day order of battle which has become such a political obsession within the Alliance.

A smaller Rhine army, held as a tactical reserve, would obviously call into question the British command of Northern Army Group. That is a dispensable appointment, not least because there would then be no one-over-one relationship between HQ BAOR and HQ First British Corps. There should be further savings in headquarters costs which, at the rate of £10 million per 1,000 men, is always to be desired.

The political and military consequence of Britain's ceding the command of Northern Army Group would be to expand the authority and influence of the Bundeswehr in Nato's councils. That is only right, in view of West Germany's preponderant contribution and critical geo-

graphical position. It would be replaced by Belgium and The Netherlands. It could lead to the withdrawal of their units from West Germany, but, though that would be a pity, it could not be held to make any serious difference to the likely order of battle in an emergency.

It is true that the Federal Republic has always been coy about assuming too preponderant a role within Nato. Even now its leaders complain that demographic difficulties may restrict West Germany's ability to maintain its army at today's strength. Nevertheless it is only if West Germany is prepared to alter its military strength that any more than marginal difference can be made to the military equation across the Iron Curtain. If the West Germans want the forward strategy to be maintained, in spite of its illogicality, perhaps they should be prepared to put their men where their mouths are.

It is time that West Germany and her allies recognized the reality of German power and adjusted to it. She is no longer a genuine junior partner in the Alliance. Indeed it has become an unnecessary paradox that the most powerful country in Europe should participate in an Alliance in a way which confers superiority on her less capable and poorer allies. The penalties imposed on those allies by the formula devised in 1954 should now be changed so that there is a more efficient distribution of forces within Nato. Only then will the Alliance be organized to maximize its defences. That is the fundamental truth of the matter which the British Government should pursue through all the diplomatic thickets which have concealed it for nearly thirty years.

Intimations of mortality

From Instructor Captain M. A. Waller, RN (Retd)

Sir, It was Egypt. He was trying to sell me a rug. I was resisting. He outlined his virtues at length, ending, "Sir, it will last you a lifetime." He stopped short, looking at my white hair, turned and walked away laughing loudly.

Dammit! I'm only 67.

Yours apprehensively,

M. A. WALLER,

Egyptian,

Combe St Nicholas,

Chard, Somerset.

August 8.

example, without a coherent and long term policy as regards the communication/information infrastructure required for the UK, the future growth of the economy might be severely impeded.

Would it be too much to ask the renamed Social Science Research Council to fill the vacuum created by the closure of the "link bank" (NEDO, beware) and to present a coherent series of policy options from its "centres of excellence"? If not, where can we turn for real policy analysis?

Yours sincerely,

MICHAEL CROSS,
182A Kew Road,
Richmond,
Surrey.

For

the economy can develop. For

Planning by default

From Mr Michael Cross

Sir, The demise of economic and physical policy thinking and planning is to be viewed with great alarm. Your leading article, "A plan by any other name" (August 8) highlights the madness of planning by default.

Buried within this no policy/no planning philosophy lie elements of the belief that state involvement of almost any kind hinders and possibly prevents economic initiative. Is this really the case?

Surely the state plays a vital role by providing the physical, social and technical infra-structure upon which the economy can develop. For

example, without a coherent and long term policy as regards the communication/information infrastructure required for the UK, the future growth of the economy might be severely impeded.

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Counting the cost of motorways

From the Chairman of
The Conservation Society

Sir, The extinction of the natural flora and fauna of this country in order to build motorways and other developments diminishes the environment permanently; the developments exact a real, if indefinite, "opportunity cost" of indefinite duration in order to provide what may well prove to be very short-lived benefit.

Perhaps, therefore, the public sentiment noted by Michael Bailey (report, July 29) which "supports those who champion the butterfly reserve rather than advocates of roads" has a sounder basis than the general tone of his article suggests.

The real objections to motorway building, however, are far more substantial and have been put many times by this society and other environmental groups without, unfortunately, making much impact on policy.

They are firstly, that building more roads tends to encourage the growth of even more traffic, rather than the other way round; secondly, that increasing our national dependence on oil, which is the inescapable effect of increasing road traffic, is likely to prove unfortunate, if not downright dangerous, in a relatively few years when diminishing oil supplies impose severe price increases if not physical shortages; thirdly, that encouraging private road traffic depresses the provision of public transport, both by road and rail, to the deprivation of the 50 per cent of the population which, for various reasons does not possess its own cars, and finally, that increasing road freight traffic causes intolerable congestion, pollution and environmental degradation in urban areas, which motorways do nothing to alleviate and much to exacerbate.

Comparisons with other countries are misleading. They mostly have greater distances between towns, smaller population densities, and a smaller network of secondary roads. Hence this country must formulate its own transport policy to suit its own present and expected future circumstances.

It makes sense to try to shift as much traffic as possible from road to rail to relieve road congestion, make better use of presently under-used assets, and above all, to preserve a greater range of options for the future.

It makes no sense at all to continue sacrificing scarce land and irreplaceable amenity in a vain attempt to build sufficient roads to avoid all congestion. The ability to motor unimpeded is not one of the fundamental democratic freedoms. If congestion occurs, motorists can and do learn to live with it.

In all probability shortages of oil and other commodities will solve the congestion problem within the foreseeable future. Why cannot we look ahead, for a change, and learn to adopt a sustainable life-style which is not prone first to hardening of the arteries and later to pernicious anaemia?

Yours faithfully,
R. D. HARRISON, Chairman,
The Conservation Society Ltd,
136 Goldington Road, Bedford.

Qualified for the job

From Mr Keith Nickol

Sir, I express no view as to whether the alleged "infiltrators" at Cowley car plant disguised the extent of their qualifications for political reasons or not.

It is, though, in my certain knowledge that if a degree holder applies for a job he or she is often rejected as being over-qualified. If they manage to get a job and their fellow workers find out they have a degree they are often not accepted, however good they are at their jobs.

Degree holders have as much right to a job as anyone else. It is quite wrong to assume them to be politically motivated if they apply for humble jobs. When I applied for a job as a hospital steward I was asked searching political questions. It never seemed to occur to the interviewer that I was simply jobless seeking a job.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH NICKOL,
17 Tredegar Square, Bow, E3.

Nigerian students

From Mr N. G. Joseph

Sir, Those who have experience in dealing with Nigerian students will find the reported statement of the officials of the Nigerian High Commission unconvincing (The Times, August 2). The most common reason given for non-payment of fees by the students is the restrictions, as well as the long bureaucratic delays, in releasing the necessary foreign exchange. Yet the High Commission officials deny

that the concern of the educational institutions and hostels about the £3m owing by the Nigerian students is understandable. What is less well known, and should cause as equal concern, is the undeserved privations and problems these young people suffer, with perhaps consequent ill effects on the quality of their work and health.

While any approach made to the Nigerian High Commission for any assistance receives a polite response, I found their scope for speedy action is limited. Lack of information is not the real cause of this, as the High Commission officials claim, but a lack of a definite policy.

One suggestion worth considering is to get a financial guarantee, supported by the Nigerian Government (even in the case of private students) before admission is given to students for any course of study.

Yours faithfully,
N. G. JOSEPH, Warden,
Chester House Hostel,
1 Chester House,
Pages Lane,
Muswell Hill, N10.

Churches' role in world politics

From the Acting General Secretary of The British Council of Churches

Sir, Thank you for your critical yet sympathetic leader (August 10), on the World Council of Churches. The Church at every level needs loyal friends who are also unsparing critics.

There is, however, a contradiction at the heart of your critique. You rightly warn the WCC of the besetting sin of becoming an end in itself. Yet that is where your recipe would lead you. Ask the WCC to devote itself more single-mindedly to the task of restoring Christian unity.

True, Christian disunity is the Church's Achilles heel. It is a scandal because a disunited Church cannot effectively serve a spiritually and physically broken world. To this world Jesus, quoting Isaiah, says "I have come to bring good news to the poor, release to captives, to let the hungry children go free."

That is why the WCC is right to make the world its priority, to have spoken on Afghanistan (and probably wrong not to have spoken more strongly), right to combat racism, right to plead for economic justice, right to condemn an arms race that kills hungry children and threatens to destroy God's creation.

The danger is not, as you suggest, that the WCC is out of touch with "the ordinary Christian." It usually speaks only too eloquently for the world's ordinary Christians, most of whom are neither well-fed, white nor western.

That is why the average British churchgoer is so disconcerted. We cannot easily get used to being one of the world's minorities. I can attest to that personally. At home my views are held to be left wing. Abroad, more often than not, I find myself somewhere to the right of centre. The WCC's problem is that it is very close to the global centre yet its task is to reflect Jesus, its Lord, and not necessarily its membership.

The Church has no real choice. The world's agenda must always be its own agenda. But on God's terms. Woe to a Church that avoids the social, economic and political issues of its time. Each of them is also a spiritual issue. Only by facing political conflict can politics be transcended and healing be brought to the world.

Future of Alliance

From Sir Harold Beeley

Sir, I fully agree with Edward Mortimer's rejection (August 9) of the view that the Liberal-SDP Alliance should attempt "to destroy and replace Labour". But his conclusion that the Alliance should offer Labour the prospect of a centre-left coalition seems to me quite unrealistic.

As the Labour Party moves further to the left it surely becomes increasingly inconceivable that, with the short-term objective of preventing the prolongation of Conservative government, it would collaborate in a reform of the electoral system, the result of which would probably be to preclude for ever the fulfilment of the Party's more revolutionary dreams.

It makes no sense at all to continue sacrificing scarce land and irreplaceable amenity in a vain attempt to build sufficient roads to avoid all congestion. The ability to motor unimpeded is not one of the fundamental democratic freedoms. If congestion occurs, motorists can and do learn to live with it.

He states, apparently with a straight "face", that the South African press is not free. We all agree, but self-protection against subversion, while on the extreme side, is a natural tendency and the South Africans are correct in their desire to preserve some semblance of order in the middle of chaos.

The press is not free in the United Kingdom, either – as Mr Woods will well inquire of your own paper or, indeed, the *Financial Times*.

I see Donald Woods is still at it! He states, apparently with a straight "face", that the South African press is not free. We all agree, but self-protection against subversion, while on the extreme side, is a natural tendency and the South Africans are correct in their desire to preserve some semblance of order in the middle of chaos.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE

August 16: The Prince Andrew this morning visited British Airways Helicopter Base at Alderton and was received upon arrival by the Chairman, British Airways Helicopters Ltd (Mr Frederick E. Bonner).

Squadron Leader Adam Wise was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, patron, the English Chamber Orchestra, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a concert given by Mr Mstislav Rostropovich and the orchestra at Kensington Palace on December 2.

Princess Anne, Chancellor of London University, will open the Department of Nursing Studies at Chelsea College on November 2. Princess Anne will attend the Christmas celebrations in Westminster Cathedral on December 20.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T. Barrett

and Miss A. Nissen

The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Barrett, of Radnor Walk, London, SW3, and Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Eugene Nissen, of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Mr S. E. Blair
and Miss C. de Nobriga
The engagement is announced between Stephen, youngest son of the late Mr D. A. Blair and Mrs Blair of Rangitane, Wanganui, New Zealand, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alexander de Nobriga, of Coton Lodge, Gainsborough, Northampton.

Mr P. H. Brewin
and Miss T. L. Speller
The engagement has been announced between Philip, eldest son of Mr H. Brewin, of Sydney, New South Wales, and Mrs J. Drage, of Melbourne, Victoria, and Tess, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Speller, of Tonbridge, Kent.

Mr P. J. Eccles
and Miss M. McI. Scrimgeour
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs John R. Eccles, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Meg, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. McI. Scrimgeour, CBE, RAF, Retd, of Southampton, and Mrs R. S. Scrimgeour, of Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Mr I. M. Le Page
and Miss S. E. Meller
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of Mr and Mrs M. J. Le Page, of Guildford, Surrey, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. T. Meller, of East Clandon.

Mr C. Mathison
and Miss F. Lloyd
The engagement is announced between Cedric, son of the late Mr J. C. Mathison, OBE, and Mrs P. E. Mathison, of Perth, Australia, and Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. W. Lloyd, of Heswall, Wirral.

University news

Cambridge
Elections
Professor J. R. S. Fincham, ScD, (Peterhouse), FRS, Buchanan professor of genetics, Edinburgh University, has been elected to the Arthur Balfour professorship of genetics from May 1, 1984.

Dr S. Rosene, advocate and member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, Israel, has been elected Arthur Goodhart professor in legal science for the academic year 1983-84.

Appointment
University Lecturer: Classics: Miss W. M. Beard, MA, PhD, (Newham College), from January 1, 1984 for three years.

Awards
11 M. A. studentships 1983-84: K. R. Dark, Sidney Sussex College; A. P. Abbott, St Edmund Hall; J. R. A. Jackson, St John's College; R. S. Hope, Clare Hall and J. A. Vase, M. A. St Catherine's College; 1983-84: L. M. Bradfield, Magdalen College.

Charter for 1983: L. M. Bradfield, Magdalen College.

Birthdays today

St Antony Acland, 67: the Earl of Carrick, 52; Mr Robin Cousins, 26; Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Gooch, 81; Sir Michael Handelzal, 68; Dr J. P. Holden, 70; the Very Rev R. C. D. Jasper, 66; Professor Sir Leslie Martin, 75; Mr George Melly, 57; Mr Alan Minter, 32; Mr V. S. Naipaul, 51; Mr Hamish Orr-Ewing, 59; Dr E. S. Page, 55; Mr Nelson Piquet, 31; Mr Wayne Sleep, 35; Miss Alfreda Thorogood, 41; Mr Guillermo Vilas, 31; Sir Michael Williams, 72; Professor Michael Wise, 65.

Church news

The Rev P. J. Sheldrick, Rector of Faversham College, and Dame Dorothy Sheldrick memorial scholarships 1983: A. D. Finch, PhD, Gonville and Caius College; Mr Edward B. Prior Prize 1983: A. A. Brown, BA, Girton College; Mr and Mrs Edward Singleton, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, and Miss Susan Morgan, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Morgan of Newcastle upon Tyne. The Rev Richard E. Harrison officiated.

Mr R. M. Trapp
and Miss D. Cooney

The marriage took place on July 30, 1983, at the Church of SS Michael and Martin, Hounslow, of Mr Roger Michael Murray Trapp, elder son of Mr and Mrs M. R. Trapp, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, Essex, and Miss Deirdre Frances Cooney, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Cooney, of Hounslow, Middlesex.

The Grade A listed building has a noble exterior and superb internal proportions. It is to be restored in traditional style at a cost of more than a quarter of a million pounds. The Christ Apostolic Church, although pentecostal, is not far in fundamentals from the Church of England, and the Pastor, the Rev Ayo Omideyi, has Anglican sympathies.

His congregation has raised £60,000 to buy the ancillary buildings, a former clergy house, convent, and school and another

Although Nigerian in origin, Pastor

Omideyi's constant theme to his congregation is that the Christ Apostolic Church must become British, and must aim to serve not ex-patriate Africans exclusively but the whole local community. There is a particular job waiting to be done, he said, with local young West Indians.

"We have the premises and we have the skill," he said. "We are hoping to get as many people from the community as possible to come and worship with us. When we have completed the work, we are hoping it will be used for various projects of the community in general."

His church is independent of its Nigerian mother church, and no financial assistance is expected from that direction.

The congregation already contains West Indians, Ghanaians, and the first few white members, and there are four assistant pastors.

They are united in their pride at having one of the "many fine buildings which gave Britain her cultural heritage", and in the belief that they were led to this spot just to the north of Shoreditch High Street by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is part of the creed of the Christ Apostolic Church that miracles do happen.

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The congregation already contains West Indians, Ghanaians, and the first few white members, and there are four assistant pastors.

They are united in their pride at having one of the "many fine buildings which gave Britain her cultural heritage", and in the belief that they were led to this spot just to the north of Shoreditch High Street by the guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is part of the creed of the Christ Apostolic Church that miracles do happen.

Although Nigerian in origin, Pastor

Omideyi's constant theme to his congregation is that the Christ Apostolic Church must become British, and must aim to serve not ex-patriate Africans exclusively but the whole local community. There is a particular job waiting to be done, he said, with local young West Indians.

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THE ARTS

Nobody has done more than Channel 4 to raise the status of the television film, an achievement recognized by the establishment of a special section for such work at the Locarno Film Festival. But Channel 4 reacted strangely to Locarno's offer to fly the flag, as John Bowen reports

Picture palace for the home

The new element at the Locarno Film Festival this year was the inclusion of a special section devoted to television films. Of course there are plenty of television festivals (Monte Carlo, Venice, Banff) with categories for almost every sort of television, but Locarno is the first to recognize that a new artform has arrived, the television film, and that its proper place for display may be at a film festival.

It has been true for some time that any cinema film which is not a blockbuster may have to rely on an eventual sale to television to bring it into profit. In the USA, with the advent of cable, there are feature films being made which are intended only for television. In Britain we have Channel 4, which has been putting up substantial proportion of a film's budget in order to have the right to show it first on television. The BBC has the facilities to follow suit, but a reluctance so far to do so.

The interdependence of television and cinema has become close, and can only grow closer. One must salute Locarno for recognizing the logic. Yet, just as within the world of cinema itself, though films may take much money and time to set up, many of the decisions which concern them will be entirely frivolous. The admirable decision by the executive committee at Locarno came about simply because an exhibition of drawings by Ellini had fallen through: the television film section

was set up as a replacement, with four months to organize and the comparatively small budget of \$30,000 Swiss francs.

The television movies had to be obtained quickly, and what is quickest is not always best. Entries for Monte Carlo and Venice are chosen corporately after much discussion. Locarno had to go to production companies and ask for entries before a deadline. There were 92 entries from 21 countries, but even so those from Argentina and Egypt arrived after the deadline, and the Australian entry thought to be still on the way.

The worst disappointment was the reaction of Channel 4, whose *Films on 4* have carried the company flag for drama (with not much to be sure, behind it) and topped its ratings. Gian-Carlo Bertelli, chief executive of the television film section, asked specifically for *Walter*, and was denied. He asked thereafter for any of the *Films on 4*, and was denied them all.

These films, he was told, were for distribution in cinemas; they must not be called "television movies" at all. It is hard to believe that any of the *Goldcrest First Love* series, excellent as most of them have been, were intended for cinema distribution.

The BBC submitted one entry, *To the Lighthouse*. Unfortunately the BBC's co-producer on *The Captain's Doll*, Primestime, independently en-

tered this D. H. Lawrence-based film. Both were shown as BBC entries in the programme. It appeared, therefore, as if the BBC had put in two films, both adaptations from literary sources, both set at the beginning of this century, both very painterly pieces of image-making, both moving at a leisurely pace. The duplication suggested that the BBC was making a statement about the nature and aims of its television drama, which is simply not true.

The 92 films could not all be shown in competition; no jury would tolerate so many. An *ad hoc* panel whittled them down to 18 in competition, 53 shown "for information". With such an unselective entry-process, there was inevitably much noise, even in competition. *Ivanhoe* was shown to a sursumation of stifled giggles from jury and journalists.

As for the international jury, it also had to be found quickly. There were two directors (Franco Rossi of Italy and Roger Gobioz of Switzerland), one writer (David Hare from Britain) and Alvin Marill from the USA, who was none of those, but the author of a definitive compilation of American television films, an encyclopaedist more than a critic. The difference between the attitudes of the jurors to their common subject may best be illustrated by quotation.

David Hare: "The place where you have to make films now is for television... In Britain, films made

for television are more interesting and important than those made for a collapsing film industry... I hate the depressing grammar of some television movies... the English tendency to say the word more than the image." Alvin Marill: "A television movie is something which must be made quickly on a budget of between one and two million dollars. It must be designed to be split into 17-minute segments, geared to presenting its parts, not what the writer wishes to say, and will be considered by the networks as a potential pilot."

All four of the jurors spoke English; two spoke no other language.

Many of the entries bore no subtitles.

The prizes went to two English-language films and one German. *Harry's Game*, Yorkshire Television's well-made thriller set in Northern Ireland, was awarded the Gold. *Domino*, a very stylish symbolic piece in black and white, from Germany, about an actress and the unemployed, was the Silver, and a Public Service Broad-



Katharina Thalbach in the stylish black-and-white symbolism of *Domino*

casting film from the USA, also in black and white, *Miss Lonelyhearts*, had the Bronze.

This last, made on a budget of only 140,000 dollars by two young Americans, Michael Dinner (director) and Jay Holman (producer), was much admired, and many of us, including one member of the jury, would have preferred to see it in first place.

There were other awards - to John Mortimer for his screenplay of *A Voyage Round My Father* and Rosemary Harris for her performance in *To the Lighthouse*. *Domino* picked up awards for its actress and cameraman; a Swedish entry had a Special Mention, and so, shamefully, did a routine American western.

Next year there will be a greatly refined method of selection, with restricted entry, though the practice of showing a selection out of

competition as a supplement to the jury-entries will continue, and there will be the facilities of a market where independent producers will be able to show video-cassettes in private to possible buyers.

"Television movies" is not a denigratory description, it is true that millions more people will see on television those films just shown in the Grand Piazza - *Vivement Dimanche*, Truffaut's shipboard homage to Hitchcock, the almost sinfully enjoyable danced Spanish version of *Carmen*, the sado-sentimental *Merry Christmas*, *Mr Lawrence*, in which David Bowie gives his Peter O'Toole a Japanese prison camp. Channel 4, alone in Britain, perhaps alone in the world, has begun to reverse the process, and we must hope that next year at Locarno it will acknowledge as much, and be proud. As Gian-Carlo Bertelli said: "To go to somebody who makes wine, and ask for wine, and then they will not give you wine, there is no sense in it".

Television Team of troubles

The boys of the Rathcoole estate did not all play together, but they played together, which was surprising and exemplary as the estate was five miles from Belfast. Their football team had a Catholic name, Star of the Sea, and was good enough for Protestants to want to join. Boys coming along were observed not to see which foot they dug with but how well they could shoot. When the troubles started, Rathcoole, with a Catholic population of one in four, first seemed far enough away to preserve its harmony which was such, we heard last night, that even on July 12 Catholics joined in the fun.

What changed this live-and-let-live situation was the shift of populations caused by the troubles. By 1972, Protestants, made homeless elsewhere, were flocking in, bitter and demanding protection. Bricks instead of balls began to fly and Catholics, embittered in their turn, was

The Star of the Sea team struggled on but togetherness was over. Three would go to prison for terrorist offences and one, Bobby Sands, would die there on hunger strike. BBC's Old Scores talked to former members of the team about how it was and is.

Not all friendships perished. That of Willie Schiffel, a Protestant, and Desie Black, a Catholic, has flourished but outside Ulster. Raymond McCord, a Protestant, told how he had tried to dissuade his co-religionists from terrorizing Catholics. He had his nose and hands broken for his pains. He is now to emigrate to Australia with his family. Sooner or later, he thought, there would be a civil war and it would be impossible to sit on the fence. Mr McCord, a welder, had concluded that Ulster was no place for a rational man.

One Catholic, Dennis Sweetney, whose experience of violence led him to become a doctor, was fairly sanguine. He hoped his son would one day play for the Star of the Sea. The rationale for his optimism was not drawn from him. He did not blame any of his teammates for their involvement. It was practically impossible, he said, to live in a working-class district and not be caught up. It was a case of "There, but for the grace of God, go I".

That grace was not much evident in this sad little programme. Olenna Frenkel sounded purposeful but her questioning lacked incisiveness; often she seemed to be inquiring after footballing potential rather than motivation and altogether we were left with that old feeling of Ulster hopelessness.

Dennis Hackett

Opera

Production in perfect harmony

Don Giovanni
Coliseum

English National Opera begin their new season with a *Don Giovanni* in spruce condition on stage and orchestrally magnificent. The promise is bright. John Stoddart's cavalier costumes and versatile timbered sets are lit by Roger Frith in a sequence of gorgeous nocturnes, within which the Anthony Besch production has been revived most ingeniously and intelligently by Peter Foster. Movement is easy and elegant, and made without any banal choreography of the action, to fit well with the pace and feeling of the music.

More interesting is the Arden's servant Michael (Mark Rylance), striding surly and apple-cheeked through this minefield and tempted by love of Mosby's sister to complicity beyond his powers. Black Will all but slits her pretty nose for one disaster and in return, after the murder, he recognizes his equality with the lordly culprits by some blatant insolence before he makes a crass mistake and delivers all of them to the stake or the gallows.

Such social aspects get their full value without detracting from the personal character of the tragedy. And tragedy, surprisingly, is murder and the death of murderers if caught, is a silly and tragic waste. But the play remains excellent theatre, fascinating to anybody who loves Shakespeare, compelling to anyone at all.

In the middle of the second act, for instance, Don Ottavio

has just taken leave of Elvira and the peasant couple when he turns to sing them "Il mio tesoro". It is not just a set piece but an adieu, and a touchingly lovely one as delivered here by Adrian Martin, who shows rare artistry in his ability to turn a phrase suddenly into silver, as he does so in his meaningful inflection of words.

The atmosphere on stage of calm elegance maintained through life-filled detail is well echoed in the pit, where Peter Robinson conducts the score even more marvelously than he did recently for Kent Opera. Nowhere is there a sense of pressure, not even in the supper scene, but instead phrase succeeds phrase in perfect balanced flow, and the texture is always held aloft in clear view. I wonder if the clarinets in this opera can ever have sounded so delicious, the trombones so awesome, and all without any sense of a conductor scoring points.

The cast is led, as before in this production, by Richard Van Allan, a saturnine Don Giovanni. Dark in tone yet beguiling in its movement, his voice seduces with invitations to hell that any but the meanest spirit would willingly accept. It also matches the similarly grave accents of the new Leporello.

Rather surprisingly this is Norman Bailey, who does not yet sound at ease with Mozart's quicker diction or with the business of playing the clown. His performance is a game one, but the style needs to be more secure in a production which shuns fussiness and leaves character to be established by voice and demeanour.

One who profits very much from this is Suzanne Murphy, singing with immense power as Donna Anna and yet holding to her questioning lacked incisiveness; often she seemed to be inquiring after footballing potential rather than motivation and altogether we were left with that old feeling of Ulster hopelessness.

Paul Griffiths

August 17, 1983

Court of Appeal

No judicial review of domestic tribunals

Law Report

December 9, 1982

On December 9, 1982 in so far as they purported to suspend the plaintiff's trainers' licence was void and ultra vires the stewards' powers in that the action amounted to a breach of the implied term of the agreement between the plaintiff and NGRC which expressly extended the jurisdiction of the court to a mandamus or injunction which would affect its performance. They suspended his trainer's licence for six months. The plaintiff had challenged that decision in his summons.

The NGRC tried to persuade Mr Justice Waller that the plaintiff's Rules of the Supreme Court which had introduced a jurisdiction in the practice and procedure relating to the administrative law. Section 31 did not purport to enlarge the jurisdiction of the court so as to enable it to review a decision of domestic tribunals.

The Court of Appeal so held,

dismissing an appeal by the defendants, the National Greyhound Racing Club (NGRC) from the dismissal by Mr Justice Waller on May 10 last (*The Times* May 16, 1982, side 1). *Order National Greyhound Racing Club* was dismissed on a claim for injunctions which had been dismissed motions brought by the NGRC seeking to have proceedings brought against them by Mr Cecil Law, a greyhound trainer, struck out on the ground that the proceedings ought to have been brought by way of judicial review under Order 53 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Section 31 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 provides:

(1) An application to the High Court for an injunction or of the following nature, namely—

(a) an order of mandamus, prohibition or certiorari;

(b) a declaration or injunction under subsection (2);

shall be made by a procedure

of judicial review under the rules of the Supreme Court.

On January 10, 1983, the plaintiff

applied for an injunction against

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**Investment
and
Finance**
**City Editor
Anthony Hilton**

THE TIMES

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EZ
Telephone 01-837 1234**STOCK EXCHANGES**

FT Index: 732.8 unchanged
 FT Gilt: 79.73 down 0.16
 FT All Shares: 463.74 up 0.4.
 Bargains: 23,456
 Datastream USM Leaders Index: 103.01 up 1.07
 New York Dow Jones Average: 1,192.89 down 0.61
 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,019.07 down 1.23
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 1,037.72 down 9.52
 Amsterdam: 151.2 down 0.5
 Sydney: AO Index: 680.8 up 7.4
 Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index: 545.8 up 1.5
 Brussels: General Index 131.17 up 1.16
 Paris: CAC Index market closed
 Zurich: SKA General 294.0 down 0.7

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
 Sterling \$1.5085 up 1.60 cents
 Index 85.0 down 0.1
 DM 4.0175 down 0.0325
 FrF 12.08 down 0.925
 Yen 367.25 down 1.50
Dollar
 Index 128.5
 DM 2.6635
NEW YORK LATEST
 Sterling \$1.5080
INTERNATIONAL
 ECUs 0.564971
 SDRs 0.700537

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
 Bank base rates 9½%
 Finance houses base rate 10%
 Discount market loans week fixed 9%
 3 month interbank 9½% - 9¾%
Euro-currency rates:
 3 month dollar 10¾% - 10½%
 3 month DM 5½% - 5¾%
 3 month Fr 15% - 15½%
US rates
 Bank prime rate 11.00
 Fed funds 9½%
 Treasury long bond 102½% - 102¾%
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
 am \$419.75 pm \$420.50
 close \$422.25-\$423 (\$280.50-282) up \$4.
New York: \$420.50
 Krugerrand (per coin): \$435.436.50 (\$289.290)
 Sovereigns (new): \$98.50-\$99.50 (\$65.50-66.25)
 *Excludes VAT

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Bulgin Group, Bypass Road, Barking, Essex (3.00). Charles Hill, Park Hall Hotel, Goldthorn Park, Wolverhampton (noon). Mountview Estates, Regent Palace Hotel, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (noon). Uniflock Holdings, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, EC2 (3.00).

TODAY

Interim: Gaskell Broadloom, Derek Bryant Group, Glenfield, Lawrence, Horizon Travel, Oliver Paper Mill, Philcon, Southend Stadium. Finals: Calcutta Electric Supply (India), ML Higgs, Scottish English and European Textiles, Victor Products. Economic statistics: U.K. Gross domestic product - Output based (second quarter), Indices of average earnings (June), Indices of basic rates of wages (July).

NOTEBOOK

While awaiting a response from BHP to Mr Robert Holmes' bid, the markets have begun to assess the reasons for the offer. A small percentage of BHP shares would transform Wigmore into a takeover vehicle.

Unilever did better than expected in the second quarter and the shares jumped 45p to 795p. Full-year profits could be comfortably ahead of 1982. But the West African market is still troubled.

Page 14

• John Wedgwood, manufacturer of Monopoly, yesterday stepped up its defiance against the £1.1m takeover attempt by British Printing & Communication Corporation with news of property deals worth £1.1m to counter BPCC's £20m plan to redevelop the former Odiham printing plant site at Watford.

• ICI is to spend £35m expanding its Melinex polyester film factory in Dumfries. The project will create 250 jobs during construction and 100 production jobs once the building is completed in two years.

New structure will make management task easier

Citibank and Lloyds in surprise deal over Grindlays ownership

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank and Citibank have agreed after years of fruitless discussion on proposals to sort out the tangled, restricting ownership structure of Grindlays Bank in which they both have a large stake.

The agreement will leave Citibank in a dominant position controlling 48.6 per cent of the publicly quoted Grindlays Holdings, which in turn will own all of Grindlays Bank. Lloyds will have 21.3 per cent.

Citibank will be fully committed to expanding Grindlays as an independent bank.

Under the present structure, Grindlays Bank is 49 per cent owned by Citibank and 51 per cent by Grindlays Holdings... which in turn is 41.4 per cent owned by Lloyds.

The nature of the shareholding reorganization came as a surprise because it was well known for some time that Citibank had been looking to sell its stake. It was widely expected that Lloyds would

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The engineers fight back - 2: Susan Bevan with the second of a series

New-look TI improves but has it done enough?

After a battering at the heart of the metal industries, TI Group, which was better known as Tube Investments, is showing signs of recuperation. A slimmer and very different looking group last week reported pretax profits of £6.2m for the first half of this year.

That compares well with only £4.7m for the whole of last year, but is a long way from the annual profits of almost £80m TI was notching up five years ago.

"What groups like us have had to do is reduce our dependence on those parts of engineering which don't have a future", said Sir Brian Kellett, chairman of TI.

"The whole process of restructuring TI has been to change the mix of the business away from the heavy end of the industry and the commodity type of business."

British consumer products have become the white hope for profits this year. Products with high value added that can prosper through recession are the new keys to the larger specialist engineering division, which is taking over the running from the commodity-like tubes of the traditional business.

The process has been painful. TI's workforce has been halved in three years to 32,000. The cost of closures, redundancies and the loss on the sale of its aluminium business and the rest of its steel interests.

British consumer products have become the white hope for profits this year. Products with high value added that can prosper through recession are the new keys to the larger specialist engineering division, which is taking over the running from the commodity-like tubes of the traditional business.

At the same time KFW's subsidiary, Abet, is the United States leader in another high technology growth area - vacuum heat treating furnaces used in the production of sophisticated alloys.

Demand for the aircraft components is depressed but KFW made a profit of almost £5m in the year before its purchase and Sir Brian is "looking forward with relish" to the time when the airlines are back on the buying trail.

Another bright spot is Crane Packing which leads the way in mechanical seals, scattered in

For example, the period of expansion of the steel industry is over.

There are technical trends too. The volume of the machine tool industry is less than it was partly because of the recession but partly due to the industry's own success in producing advanced tools that last longer.

Sir Brian believes that the slim-line TI has completed the restructuring needed to face the future. The group's critics think it is not before time.

Even before the recession took hold it was recognized, within TI as well as outside, that the group faced structural headaches. Its main profit earners were in mature or declining markets.

After reorienting itself in the late 1960s, after the loss through nationalization of much of its

'What groups like us have had to do is reduce our dependence on those parts of engineering which don't have a future?'

steel business, TI put life into the tubes business and the construction of the doomed Invergordon aluminium smelter.

With hindsight, too much attention was paid to producing intermediate goods where marketing and innovation play a small part.

It still remains to be seen whether TI has yet done enough to secure its future. Market hopes for this year, taking into account a bumper second half for domestic appliances and a recovery in machine tools, are for pretax profits of about £20m - still not much of a return on capital employed of nearly £350m. Uncertainty continues to hang over bicycles and steel tubes. There is not much TI can do about the latter but it is putting its back into Raleigh.

Even with its big bicycle brand names, TI Raleigh and toy division was criticized for depending too much on bulk sales to what proved unstable Third World markets, and as a complacent monopoly which succumbed to cheap imports at home.

Since the dark days of 1981, when TI's cycle and toy division lost £10.5m, Raleigh has undergone a complete rethink from production methods to marketing. Employment is down by a third, the range has been both rationalized and redesigned and the stress has moved to selling bikes as consumer goods for the fashion-conscious.

Some £7m will be spent on the revamp this year and the cautious Sir Brian has "great confidence" in the division's future. "We have a very young and active management bringing this business back to shape," he says.

The big success of the BMX Burner for boys has helped Raleigh to restore its share of the British market to its pre-

increased in importance from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. But the most dramatic symbol of change was the sale for £1.7m last October of TI's 58 per cent holding in British Aluminium. Falling world prices and competitive weaknesses in a global market where British Aluminium was a minnow among giants led to an attributable loss for TI of £13.7m in 1981 and a further £3.8m in the months of 1982 before its sale to Alcan.

The disposal meant a £36.3m write-off but it was a vital step in the process of making TI less of a helpless victim of the swings and roundabouts of the economic cycle.

With the nature of its businesses and most of its assets in Britain, TI's progress has always been closely tied to the performance of the British economy. Pretax profits rose steadily rather than spectacularly through the 1970s from £18.7m in 1971 to £78.4m in 1978 (boosted by the consolidation of British Aluminium).

Then came a setback to £52m as the recession began to bite in 1979 and an inexorable slide into a loss of £23.1m in the depths of 1981.

The hesitancy of Britain's overall recovery was faithfully reflected in TI's depressingly small pretax profit of £4.7m last year and even today the turnaround is not across the board. Steel tubes remained stuck in the doldrums during the first half of this year with dismal prospects and the depressed machine tools sector, only recently beginning to perk up, led to lower profits from the engineering division.

But the increased emphasis on consumer products - washing machines, heaters and kettles with names like Creda, Glow-Worm and Russell Hobbs - is paying dividends.

This division produced £10m of the £1.4m trading profit total for the half year. Meanwhile a new approach to Raleigh bicycles - no longer a commodity pumped into insecure Third World markets but a highly promoted style-conscious business catering to trendy Europeans - has set this loss-making division on the way to break even this year.

Sir Brian, who has frequently poured cold water over premature forecasts of recovery, is more confident now but characteristically not over-exuberant.

"What we are seeing is the economy coming up with a consumer-led boom but it will be a slow process for it to spread through and ultimately bring up heavy capital investment."

I don't think there is any doubt that the volume of world demand for some of these heavy products will be less in the future than at times in the past.

A good move here has been the acquisition in 1981 of the American group King Fifth Wheel. The £25.6m purchase is Sir Brian's favourite example of the group's direction today.

KFW represents an important move both into higher technology engineering and the United States market. Its flash-welded rings, an important component of aircraft gas turbine engines, dovetails neatly with the business of TI Reynolds, which is the leading supplier of these products to the European aerospace industry.

While TI is now hoping to make more than the former owner from the Alfred Herbert range of computer controlled lathes which it bought from the receiver for £250,000, the industry clearly is still in a state of flux.

Steel tubes remain a big problem, though capacity has been radically pruned at the commodity end of the business. Tasks go on with British Steel on a concerted rationalization of the industry and some outcome from these will be the most important element in the saga of TI's struggle back.

Tomorrow: Vickers



Kellett Confident but characteristically not overexuberant

W H Smith names cable section chief

APPOINTMENTS

W H Smith: Mr Francis Baron has become managing director of the new cable services division.

Lloyds Bank: Mr J. P. B. Hadfield has been appointed a regional director of the North West regional board.

Bank of America: Mr John Ashhead has been promoted senior vice president and appointed to the new position of head of personnel and administration, based in London.

AE Group: Mr Alan Arnott has become deputy managing director, AE Auto Parts, Mr Peter Adcock has become managing director, Edmunds Walker & Co, with responsibility for the activities of Edmunds Walker (Holdings).

UMECO Holdings: Mr G. R. A. Metcalfe has been appointed group managing director.

Warner Lambert UK: Mr John Telford Beasley, managing director and president of the UK, Ireland and "Commonwealth" African region, and Mr Hector Graham, president of the France, North West Africa and Middle East region, have exchanged posts. Mr James Hamilton who has retired as export director for Warner Lambert has been succeeded by Mr Edwin Bay, previously operations director. He is succeeded by Mr Colin Clarke, director of the Company's Park-Davis factory in Pontypool, responsibilities which he will retain.

Freshwater Biological Association: Dr Robin Clarke has been appointed director of the association from October 1. He will succeed Mr David Le Cren who is retiring.

Appleford: Mr Cyril Hehir has joined the company, which is part of the Vine Products Group, as managing director designate to succeed Mr Neville Kirby. Mr Kirby, who became chairman of Appleford, remains on the board of Vine Products.

Warner Lambert UK: Mr John Telford Beasley, managing director and president of the UK, Ireland and "Commonwealth" African region, and Mr Hector Graham, president of the France, North West Africa and Middle East region, have exchanged posts. Mr James Hamilton who has retired as export director for Warner Lambert has been succeeded by Mr Edwin Bay, previously operations director. He is succeeded by Mr Colin Clarke, director of the Company's Park-Davis factory in Pontypool, responsibilities which he will retain.

Racal.

Twenty-eighth consecutive record year.

The Trading Record for the Last Ten Years

	Turnover £	Sales Outside UK £	Pre-Tax Profit £	EPS after Tax
1974	37,378,000	25,099,000	6,247,000	1.70p
1975	53,988,000	36,912,000	9,559,000	3.82p
1976	79,971,000	58,073,000	19,646,000	6.16p
1977	122,258,000	90,273,000	32,714,000	9.44p
1978	183,338,000	141,380,000	49,832,000	12.73p
1979	226,689,000	169,201,000	61,623,000	16.88p
1980	263,742,000	185,611,000	63,624,000	18.06p
1981	536,434,000	379,006,000	73,211,000	18.67p
1982	643,894,000	465,821,000	102,616,000	26.16p
1983	763,568,000	532,059,000	114,268,000	26.57p

Sales of strategic radio were well down on forecast but there are now encouraging signs of improvement. After a difficult period of trading, contracts worth a total of nearly £22,000,000 have been recently awarded and further substantial orders for specialised systems in both civil and military environments are at advanced stages of negotiations. There is good potential throughout the world for our extensive range of communications electronic warfare (EW) equipment for surveillance, direction finding and jamming.

Marine Electronics

Sales of all marine electronics products grew to £85,233,000.

This business is now directed through one organisation which controls and co-ordinates the activities of 24 UK and overseas companies. Plans for expansion in a number of key areas - navigation, radar, controls, simulation and service - are centralised within this group with particular emphasis on total systems.

Defence Radar & Avionics

During the year sales grew strongly to reach £81,751,000, of which defence radar contributed £66,000,000, this being three times more than that of 1980.

The many contracts being won for radar electronic warfare (EW) systems demonstrate the group's growth in this fast developing area. Some 25 years of experience in designing, developing and manufacturing EW systems has enabled Racal to emerge as a leading authority in defence systems for all environments on land, at sea and in the air. A notable success was a £20,000,000 order for the supply of advanced electronics support measures (ESM) systems for Royal Navy submarines. Further naval orders in excess of £50,000,000 are consistently expected over the next few weeks.

Increasing participation in major collaborative programmes has resulted in a joint agreement with Westland Helicopters to develop avionics management systems.

Energy Resources

Sales reached £45,038,000 in a difficult year for those involved in the oil related industries.

The formation of an energy resources group has brought together specialist companies involved in precise positioning

and offshore survey technologies, principally for the oil and gas industries throughout the world.

Other Activities

These account for the remaining £129,105,000 of sales. It is interesting to note that this figure is as large as the turnover for the entire Racal Group as recently as 1977.

The other businesses are: - acoustics, antennas, computer-aided engineering, communications security, data & communications recording, financial terminal systems, health & safety, intruder detection, logistic support and automatic/diagnostic test systems, measurement technology, microelectronics, microwave components & systems.

Cellular Radio

Our successful application for the private sector licence to operate a nationwide public telecommunications service based on cellular radio technology, has opened up an exciting new business opportunity. The licence, which runs for 22 years, permits us to set up and operate a system which will provide portable access to the public telephone network on a vast scale.

We foresee a significant sales turnover around 1990, with profit margin at least comparable to that currently achieved by the Group as a whole.

Pay Television

We in Britain stand on the brink of a television revolution already referred to as the third age of broadcasting.

The Group, through its equal joint venture partnership with Oak Industries Inc. of California, is already involved in this new area not only in the United Kingdom but throughout Europe. Racal-Oak Limited, our recently formed associate company, blends together our own expertise with that of Oak Industries, a United States market leader in many aspects of pay television.

Overseas Sales

Deliveries outside the United Kingdom amounted to £532,000,000, an increase of 14% over the corresponding figure for last year and represent 70% of total sales. Exports from the UK maintained Racal's position in the top twenty league table.

Research and Development

Racal has from its earliest days been committed to a policy of funding the great majority of its R & D from its own resources to develop proprietary products for the world market. This policy has been continued with an increasing proportion of product developments, in the areas of business acquired with Decca, being handled this way.

Appreciation

The skill and dedication of our staff was formally recognised last November, when our Company was named as the winner of the 1982 United Kingdom Business Enterprise Award. I am certain that it will be your wish to join me in congratulating all the members of the Racal team for their tremendous efforts which have done so much to put our Company in the position it now holds in the world of professional electronics. Additionally, we should thank most sincerely their families for their loyalty, encouragement and understanding which is essential for our success and is so greatly appreciated.

The Future

The former Decca group of companies is now going forward strongly. The major problem remaining to be solved is the elimination of the losses being incurred in the field of small boat radar and this year we expect to go a long way towards achieving that goal. The defence radar company is especially successful - its order book is large and growing and the future prospects are most encouraging.

Several of our smaller businesses are progressing well, any of which could develop into a major activity.

The award of the cellular radio licence was one of the most exciting events in the history of Racal. In the short term, trading losses will be incurred and a substantial investment will need to be made whilst the system is being evolved and introduced. However, it is anticipated that by 1987/88 trading profits will be earned and that by the early 1990's the operation will be cash positive. Cellular radio will undoubtedly be a substantial contributor to our future earnings.

The combination of our existing businesses, our product development policy and the new growth areas, such as cellular radio and pay television, will ensure the continued growth of the Company in the years ahead.

At March 31st, 1983 the Company had net cash of some £3,000,000 compared with net borrowings of £46,000,000 the year before. This cash position will improve considerably throughout the year and earnings will benefit as a consequence.

With regard to the current financial year I am confident that the management changes that have taken place at Racal-Milgo, Miami, will result in an improved contribution to Group profitability.

Referring to the other factor which adversely affected last year's results, namely, the delay in the placing of a large number of orders from overseas, there are signs that the position is now improving.

<p

International trade: John Lawless looks at what is happening on the British business front at home and overseas

ECGD hint of private involvement

The committee of inquiry, announced yesterday, to investigate the state-run insurance agency, the Export Credits Guarantee Department, has a three-pronged brief.

Most fascinating will be to look into "the possibility of devolving any functions to the private sector or collaborating with the private sector in carrying them out".

This suggests that the ECGD, which has £29bn in British exports on its books, is a monopoly.

But Sir Peter Matthews, the Vickers chairman, who heads the inquiry, already knows (having served on the Export Guarantees Advisory Council) that all its work is open to private sector competition.

The largest of the specialist companies underwriters total business in one year that ECGD guarantees in two to three days, the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts heard this year.

It concluded: "We are not convinced enough is yet being done to draw upon private sector expertise." It did not do so because ECGD was seen as jealously guarding its activities, but because the state agency, having had staff cuts, does not possess sufficient specialists to cover its outstanding risk.

The task facing Sir Peter, therefore, is not to bring large chunks of a state business to a hungry market of investors. He has to see whether existing private activities can be encouraged.

The review, the first in 11 years, is welcomed by industry. Lord Selborne, chairman of the CBI's export credit committee, said yesterday: "We are delighted the government has decided to act."

"In today's highly competitive trading conditions, the time is ripe to ensure that the department can provide UK exporters with credit insurance and financing facilities as effective as those available to our international trading counterparts."

Outside specialists will, without doubt, continue to grow in importance. But they are still comparatively young and in a market which sees claims maturing over several years.

Saudi sales safe

Britain's soaring exports to Saudi Arabia are among the cash generation facing all least likely to be threatened by energy-exporting countries.

The British sales rise overlaps with a period when the kingdom's balance of payments have moved into deficit and with a decrease in government spending, by 6 per cent, to \$6.5bn riyals in the first four months of the country's fiscal year, ending August 8.

British purchases were expected to fall during the oil glut, but the sharp decrease in imports (down from \$81.5m to \$45.8m in the same periods) has not only put Britain into a two-way trade surplus.

The Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency at the weekend brought the riyal's value down to 3.47, a week after devaluing it from 3.45.

Duty-free imports double

Britain's claim to have one of the world's most open markets is backed by a Department of Trade and Industry study, just published, which shows the number of duty-free imports of manufactured goods doubling in 1980.

Many products from Commonwealth countries have lost their duty-free privileges, it says.

More important, in terms of protectionism, the study claims that only 7 per cent of British visible imports was subjected to non-tariff restraints.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Sec-

Channon for Colombia

Mr Paul Channon, the GBC is leading an Anglo-German consortium, while Hawker Siddeley is in a British-Canadian grouping.

The visit would give Mr Channon the opportunity to stress that the Government is prepared to back a British contractor to the rail, having transit subway system to be built in Medellin.

electrocomponents

■ We have continued our 15 year record of uninterrupted growth in sales and profits.

■ The proposed annual dividend has been substantially increased to 3.00p net reflecting our confidence in the Group's prospects.

■ R.S. Components, our largest subsidiary, achieved a very commendable sales growth of 21.4% and effected the move of most of their business to Corby.

■ Our newest subsidiary, Mesa, in the USA expects a profit in the current year. The business has great potential.

■ Technology in electronics continues to develop rapidly and the advantages of its application gain increasing acceptance.

■ We are currently pursuing business opportunities in the USA and look for similar developments in Europe.

■ The Group has made a good start to the current year and recent developments should help to increase sales and profits in 1983/84.

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Electrocomponents plc, 3745 City Road, London EC1P 1HX.



	Year to 31.3.83	Year to 31.3.82
Turnover	£101,251	£8,501
Profit before taxation and exceptional expenses	£8,639	£15,739
Taxation	£8,624	£7,060
Profits attributable to shareholders	£8,578	£8,914
Earnings per share	2.77p	8.66p
Dividend per share	3.00p	2.20p

electrocomponents

Petroleos Mexicanos
Dr. The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A., New York as Principal Paying Agent.

Notice of Mandatory Redemption

PEMEX

Petroleos Mexicanos

U.S. \$20,000,000 8 1/2 per cent. Bonds 1987

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the provisions of the Trust Deed dated August 10th, 1972, between Petroleos Mexicanos and Hambros Bank Executor and Trustee Company, Limited, U.S. \$1,750,000 nominal of the Bonds is due for mandatory redemption on September 1st, 1983 at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to September 1st, 1983. Pursuant to Condition 6 of the Terms and Conditions applicable to the Bonds, 1277 Bonds have been purchased by Petroleos Mexicanos and \$1,277,000 has been credited against the amount due for redemption. The serial numbers of the Bonds drawn for redemption are as follows:-

9 1128 1738 2669 3888 4338 5272 5785 6275 6868 7974 9544 11080 12825 15157 17333 18182 18533 19044 19756
10 1147 1742 2880 3841 4358 5297 5797 6281 6898 7982 10317 11128 12797 15488 17384 18185 18807 19117 19755
47 1155 1759 2706 3860 4359 5303 5827 6289 7041 8023 10337 11129 12871 15488 17384 18185 18807 19117 19780
104 1168 1780 2713 3726 4381 5312 5901 6310 7048 8054 10434 11133 12674 15821 17386 18185 19154 19787
108 1173 1786 2751 3768 4388 5352 5827 6312 7141 8058 10452 11142 12881 15845 17425 18185 19165 19783
113 1174 1787 2768 3761 4409 5354 5931 6313 7180 8082 10225 11155 12885 15948 17426 18185 19164 19784
220 1222 1854 2769 3814 4384 5355 5828 6314 7228 8104 10500 11156 12886 15950 17427 18185 19165 19785
91 1286 1854 2774 3824 4424 5355 5829 6315 7228 8105 10584 11175 12886 15955 17428 18185 19166 19786
892 1291 2009 2781 3826 4426 5415 5882 6324 7249 8261 10687 11292 13480 16328 17484 18320 18633 19212 19803
928 1312 2070 2804 3840 4754 5415 5988 6351 7284 8264 10694 11284 13481 16349 17522 18315 18687 19215 19827
937 1339 2461 3883 4759 5615 6371 7465 8789 10703 11303 13487 16384 17548 18338 18679 19227 19834
944 1392 2489 2898 3849 4772 5430 6017 6396 7512 8791 10843 11865 13737 16386 17585 18344 18734 19257 19862
991 1419 2489 2898 3849 4786 5434 6047 6401 7563 8780 10887 11869 13793 16392 17588 18354 18734 19257 19862
1002 1426 2512 2975 3855 4788 5436 6051 6410 7567 8863 10888 11888 14214 17009 17571 18389 18741 19267 19866
1003 1505 2524 3389 3862 4805 5438 6053 6412 7570 8862 10888 11894 14215 17018 17575 18389 18743 19265 19865
1012 1526 2528 3430 3869 4822 5439 6054 6413 7574 8862 10889 11895 14216 17019 17576 18390 18744 19266 19864
1013 1619 2531 3434 3869 4824 5440 6055 6414 7578 8863 10890 11896 14217 17020 17577 18391 18745 19267 19863
1068 1681 2586 3472 3981 5057 5619 6177 7470 7280 8178 10944 12386 14862 17034 17921 18479 18788 18878
1061 1695 2617 3507 3989 5131 5627 6198 6503 7287 8203 10970 12508 14847 17074 17982 18489 18885 18867
1065 1696 2620 3527 4051 5154 5628 6200 6505 7287 8281 10975 12518 15107 17082 18028 18508 18941 18868
1074 1714 2622 3532 4062 5160 5635 6235 6503 7288 8281 10976 12523 15115 17083 18030 18510 18947 18870
1084 1715 2630 3541 4068 5193 5745 6243 6507 7289 8282 10977 12521 15107 17087 18035 18512 18944 18870
1120 1737 2652 3587 4072 5243 5784 6283 6603 7285 8283 10943 12820 15156 17329 18108 18533 18974 18873

On September 1st, 1983, there will become due and payable on the Bonds to be redeemed, the principal amount thereof together with accrued interest to September 1st, 1983. On and after September 1st, 1983 interest on the Bonds to be redeemed shall cease to accrue. Payment of Bonds to be redeemed will be made on or after September 1st, 1983 upon presentation and surrender of said Bonds, with all coupons appertaining thereto maturing after September 1st, 1983 at any of the following banks:-

The Chase Manhattan Bank,
National Association,
(Corporate Bond Redemption)
1 New York Plaza, 14th Floor,
New York, New York 10038.

The Chase Manhattan Bank,
National Association,
41 Rue Cambon,
75001 Paris.

Interest accrued and unpaid to September 1st, 1983 on said Bonds will be paid in the usual manner.

August, 1983

Chase Bank A.G.,
Taunusstrasse 11,
6 Frankfurt (Main) 1.

Swiss Bank Corporation,
Aachenvorstadt 1,
Basel.

Petroleos Mexicanos
Dr. The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A., New York as Principal Paying Agent.

1982	High Low Offer Yield	1983	High Low Offer Yield	1982	High Low Offer Yield	1983	High Low Offer Yield	1982	High Low Offer Yield	1983	High Low Offer Yield	1982	High Low Offer Yield	1983	High Low Offer Yield	1982	High Low Offer Yield	1983	High Low Offer Yield	
Authorized Units Trusts				Canada Life Unit Trust Managers				Holiday Fund Management Ltd.				Holiday Fund Management Ltd.			Holiday Fund Management Ltd.			Holiday Fund Management Ltd.		
Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	Abbey Unit Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	
24.5 P. F. P. Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24.5 P. F. P. Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24.5 P. F. P. Trust Managers	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1 5DR	24 High St. Peters Bar, Bristol, BS1										

Eddery has the whip hand on brave Caerleon

By Michael Seely

Both Caerleon and Sun Princess stamped themselves as leading contenders for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on rain-soaked ground at York yesterday. Brilliantly ridden by Pat Eddery, who was gaining his third consecutive triumph in the centrepiece of the opening day of Yorkshire's festival of racing, the French Derby winner showed superb courage and stamina when resisting the determined assault of Hot Touch. Willie Carson also showed fine judgment in his handling of Sun Princess, who made every yard of the running to beat Green Lucia by four lengths in the Yorkshire Oaks.

Despite the late withdrawal of the ante-post favourite, Shareef Dancer, because of the soft going, nothing should be allowed to detract from the sterling performance of Caerleon. Confident of his mount's stamina, Eddery dictated the gallop on the winner. Both John French and Goryus launched dangerous-looking attacks half-way up the straight, but in a desperate last-furlong battle Caerleon was always just holding Hot Touch's challenge. The pair finished one and a half lengths ahead of John French with Goryus in fourth place.

Caerleon's triumph paid further tribute to the genius of Vincent O'Brien, who has long been acknowledged as one of the outstanding racehorse trainers of all time. Robert Sangster's Nijinsky colt was fitted with a tongue strap as a precautionary measure. "I don't know whether it made any difference or not," O'Brien said afterwards, "but Caerleon gurgled after losing his shoes in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot, so we thought it worthwhile trying."

Surprisingly O'Brien is still

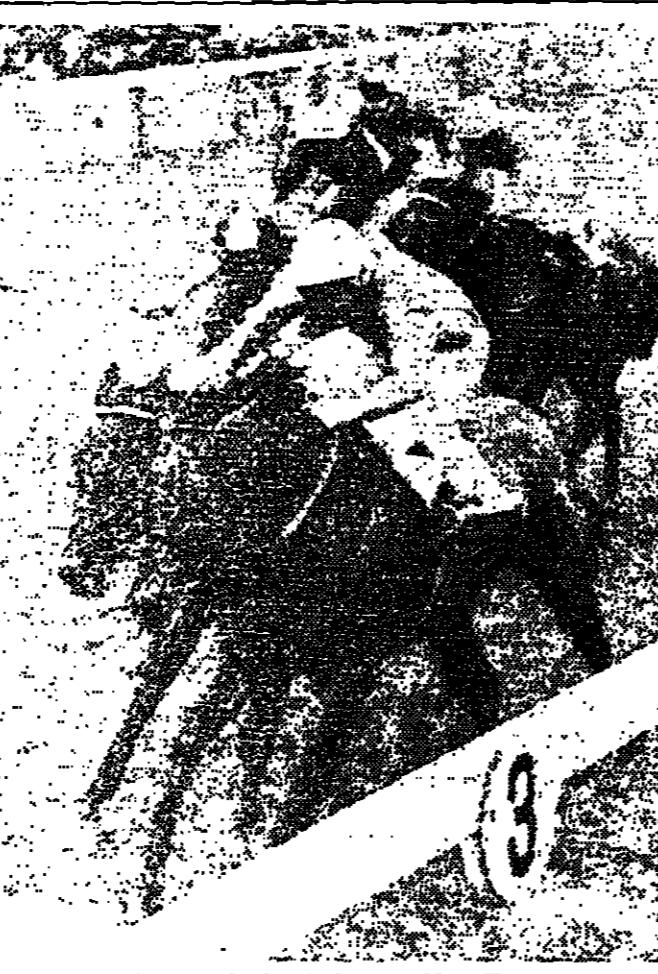
confident that Caerleon is a better horse on fast going and it speaks volumes for the three-year-olds' consistency and toughness that he has been able to win two group one races under these conditions. The trainer is still unable to confirm that Caerleon will be the Baldoyle representative at Longchamp.

Announcing that he would decide whether Solford will be allowed to take his chance in this afternoon's Great Voltigeur Stakes, after inspecting the ground this morning, the trainer said: "I have to think about Solford as well as Caerleon and Salmon Leap could still come into the reckoning."

The withdrawal of Shareef Dancer must have come as a bitter disappointment to the enormous crowd who had been hopeful of watching the Irish Derby winner confirm his superiority over Caerleon. Michael Stoute said: "It is very annoying and frustrating, but I know I made the right decision. I have no immediate plans for the horse. This appeared to be an ideal opportunity of winning another group one race on fast ground and as the season progresses these opportunities become fewer."

Walter Swinburn, the stable jockey, endorsed the trainer's opinion. "Mr Stoute was 110 per cent right. Shareef Dancer would not have won under the Pivertelle."

Sun Princess, on the other hand had already shown that she loves testing going when winning the Oaks by 12 lengths. Yesterday the English Prince filly again confirmed that she is the best of her age and sex in these islands. Give Thanks, the impressive winner of the Irish Oaks was going easily in the straight, but could only take



Caerleon holds the challenge of Hot Touch.

third place, seven lengths behind Sun Princess.

When finishing a close third to Time Charter in the Diamond Stakes at Ascot the filly had fought hard for her head in the early stages, but on this occasion she settled down and relaxed in the lead. "This is a very good filly," the trainer said. "She will go for the Arc, but I would first like to run her in the Prix Verrerie."

Horn and Castle went on to complete a double when Elusive Sprinted home two lengths clear of Axios in the Acorn Stakes. In recent years the Royal colours have also been carried to victory in this listed race by Height of Fashion and Tartan Pimpernel.

The only other favourite to succeed during the afternoon was Adoniah, who had no

difficulty in beating his only two opponents in the High Line Stakes. Henry Cecil said that Newmarket's Champion Stakes was the target for Prince Khaled Abdulrahman's High Line colt.

Sponsors pull out

William Hill, the bookmakers who are the leading sponsors of horse racing, have now dropped their support of three group one races at Newmarket. The July Cup, centrepiece of the summer meeting, and the important autumn two-year-old races, the Middle Park Stakes and Cheveley Park Stakes, have all been dropped from the firm's programme for 1984. However, Hill's overall contribution will keep them at the top of the sponsorship table with a contribution of about £250,000 in support of the remaining 12 races from last year's portfolio.

Soft going hardens Teenozo's chance

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

The ground could easily hold the key to the outcome of the Great Voltigeur Stakes at York today, and that has been quantum to an imperious champion there. The Derby winner, Teenozo, who excelled himself on softish ground in the spring will be in his element once again, and he is my selection.

Had it remained firm, it might have been sensible to go for the Eclipse Stakes winner, Solford, who was blissfully at ease on the firm ground at Sandown, especially as Teenozo looked like a cat on hot bricks when he finished only third behind Shareef Dancer and Caerleon in the Irish Derby where the ground was hard. But yesterday's rain on top of heavily watered course will have been like sweet music in his trainer, Geoff Wraggs, ears, and anyone who was at Lingfield in May and at Epsom on Derby Day will be need reminding how much he is when there is some give underneath.

The fact that Wraggs is also running a pacemaker for Teenozo implies that he is happy with the colt's condition even though his target in the long run is the St Leger. Yesterday, George Robinson, our Newmarket Correspondent, said that Wraggs has every reason to be pleased with Teenozo, because the colt has been looking and moving well in his paddock.

Robinson also says that Dazari is expected to acquit himself well after his victory in the Scottish Derby. However, bearing that race in mind, there must be a doubt whether Dazari will cope with Seymour Hicks let alone Teenozo. Seymour

Hicks looked very unlucky at Ayr where he got into all manner of trouble in the straight. Yet he was still beaten only a neck. Wraggs must have a pretty shrewd idea whether Teenozo can bear them because he also trains Hot Touch, who is breathing down their necks at Ayr.

With 18 stayers standing their ground overnight, the Tote-Ebor is as usual open set. Another Sam has the lead, the neighbour and he will be endeavouring to become the first horse to win this race twice since Flint Jack achieved the feat in 1922 and 1923. Another Sam seems bound to run his customary sound race, as indeed should his stable companion, Ambiance, who acquitted himself so well against Prince of

Princes at Lingfield earlier this month.

Full results from York

Going: Good

2.0 KNARESBOROUGH HANDICAP (2-y-o): £4,474; 7f

WINNING SCRIBE ch c by Blazing Groom

- Takakoma (W) (g) - P. Young (7-1)

Mr Meekie (g) To the Click - Louie (14-1)

(Mrs S Brock) 7-13

Dove (W) - W. Lovell (14-1)

Dove (of Sunderland) 9-1

E. Hinde (12-1)

Idealized br c by Mummy's Pet - Flint Jack (20-1)

Paul Eddy (20-1)

Sally (g) 9-12

Starkey (g) 9-11

Also: Sam 5-2 ten-year-old, 5 star

Close, Jazora (g) 12-15, 25 Catching, Courting

Season, Eency, Banjo Bandit, K-Barry

Grange of Glory, 18 ran.

TOTE: Winc. £0.10. Places: £1.70, £1.50, £1.40.

DF: £1.20. CPS: £24.80. TRICAST: £1.20.

MIDNIGHT: 1.20. W. Horn at Westgate, 12 ran.

2.45 MELROSE HANDICAP (3-y-o): £7,702; 1m

INCREASING IDEA b f by Youth-Fascination

G. H. H. (20-1)

Admiral b c by Julia Martin

Autumn Salad (W) G-B-P Eddy

(11-1)

Fighter Pilot gr c by Warpath - Brief Flight

J. E. (20-1)

Also: Rain 3-1 for Bedaine (44), 11-2

Samuels (g) 8-13, 25 Absurd, 10 Putney

Shuttle 11-12, 20 Appeal To All, 25 Peacock, 50

Jediwin (g) 100 Cast A Shadow, 13 ran.

2.55 HIGH LINE STAKES (3-y-o): £3,119; 1m 21 1/2 days

ADONIAH ch c by High Line - Shadow

Queen (Abdu) 8-3 J. E. (25-1)

St. Bede's (g) 8-12, 25 Darken Apart

Trotter (g) 8-12, 25 Darken Apart

Starlike (g) 8-12 by Wimborne - Courtes

Baby (H) 3 Commercial Spurles (g) 8-9

E. Johnson (31-1)

TOTE: Winc. £0.00. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £1.50.

DF: £0.20. CPS: £21.50. TRICAST: £1.20.

MIDNIGHT: 1.20. W. Horn at Westgate, 12 ran.

2.65 LINDALE STAKES (3-y-o): £7,354; 2m (13)

CRUSADER CASTLE (P) Melton (g) 8-6

G. Starkey (14-1)

SANTILLA (P) R. Tatton (g) 8-4

G. Starkey (14-1)

DEARABLE (g) Mrs J Corbett 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

PEBBLES (P) (C) Lemme's C British 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

PLANTS (P) Mrs J. Corlett 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

PLAY (P) Mr Player (H) 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

RUSTICLIO (P) J. Johnson (J) Tree 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

TEENOSA (P) D. McHugh (J) Winter 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

S. Starkey (14-1)

Also: 5-2 ten-year-old, 5 star

Close, Jazora (g) 12-15, 25 Catching, Courting

Season, Eency, Banjo Bandit, K-Barry

Grange of Glory, 18 ran.

TOTE: Winc. £0.00. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £1.50.

DF: £0.20. CPS: £24.80. TRICAST: £1.20.

MIDNIGHT: 1.20. W. Horn at Westgate, 12 ran.

2.75 YORKSHIRE OAKS (3-y-o): £5,345; Group 3

WIBUS RANGE (W) (g) 8-6

P. Stevenson (14-1)

REBELLION (P) Mrs D. Cross 8-14

P. Stevenson (14-1)

MAGNET (P) Mrs B. Hines 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

VOLKAN (P) Mrs H. Hines 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

WILDFIRE (P) Mrs M. Ryan 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

YONDER (P) Mrs M. Jones 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

ZEBRA (P) Mrs J. Jones 8-11

P. Stevenson (14-1)

Also: 5-2 ten-year-old, 5 star

Close, Jazora (g) 12-15, 25 Catching, Courting

Season, Eency, Banjo Bandit, K-Barry

Grange of Glory, 18 ran.

TOTE: Winc. £0.00. Places: £1.50, £1.50, £1.50.

DF: £0.20. CPS: £24.80. TRICAST: £1.20.

MIDNIGHT: 1.20. W. Horn at Westgate, 12 ran.

2.85 EBOR HANDICAP (2-y-o): £27,652; 1m (18)

ANOTHER SAM (CD) U. Khan 6-9-7

P. Stevenson (14-1)

MUBARK OF KWAI (C) (Shake Fahad) G. Harwood 6-9-6

G. Starkey (14-1)

HENRICKUS (Count S. Selection) G. Harwood 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

CARIBBEAN (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

DABOUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

TOKYO (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

AMBASSADEUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

AMBASSADEUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

AMBASSADEUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

AMBASSADEUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

AMBASSADEUR (P) (D) (F) Richmond 4-6-4

P. Stevenson (14-1)

Thanks
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**FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES,
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BIRTHS

BOOTHMAN - On August 15 in Jersey, 10 St Peter Port, the marriage of James and Linda.

BROWN - On August 15, to Diana and Simon - a daughter, James and Tom.

DARBY - On August 15th to Linda, wife of John and Nicholas, a daughter, Sophie.

DE SWYNS - On August 15, at Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, 10 New End Square, a daughter, Anna, sister to Catherine.

DUNKELEY - On 12th August 1983 in St. Mary's Church, Fairford, Glos., a daughter, Rachel Louise.

HALL - On 12th August 1983 in Marthaville, 10, Linton Rd, Luton, a son, Rowland and a daughter, Rodney.

JOHNS - To Captain Peter Hallinan, 14th August, a son, Christopher, 14th August, a stepbrother to Alison and Theodore.

KELLY - On 12th August 1983 in Jersey, a son, James and Hugh, a son, Sam, a daughter, Anna.

MITCHELL - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

MURDOCH - In Perth, on August 1983, to David and Jean, a son, David, and Philip, a son, David, Richard, a son, Michael.

WELBURN - On August 13th, to Michael and Anne, a daughter, Anna, wife of Paul, Tom and Jim.

WILLIAMS - On August 1st in Bristol, a daughter, Anna, wife of David, a daughter, Michaela.

MARRIAGES

WILSON SAUNDERS - On August 12th in St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, a son, Fletcher.

DEATHS

BALLARD - On 10th August at his home in the Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff, a son, Peter and a daughter, grandmother. Funeral has placed in the care of Mortemore Ltd, Glynneath.

BARKER - On August 13, in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, a son, Nick, a daughter, a son, Nick, and a daughter, Anna.

BENNETT - On August 13, in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, a son, Nick, a daughter, Anna.

BROWN - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

CALLEN - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

CLARK - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

COOPER - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

DEAN - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

DELL - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

FRASER - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

GARRETT - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

GIBSON - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

GOODFELLOW - On August 13, to Linda, wife of Ian and John, a daughter, Anna.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

8.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, traffic, weather and sports news. Available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.

8.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Sue Cook. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; keep fit between 7.22 and 8.32; horoscopes between 8.30 and 8.45; Clare Rayner's Agony Column between 8.30 and 8.45; food and cooking hints between 8.45 and 9.00.

9.00 News At Ten. News with John Naughton, Paul Parvus and Leslie Judd on their 1975 tour to Turkey (r) 8.25. Jackanory. Nerys Hughes reads another chapter of Berlie Doherty's *How Green You Are!* (r) 8.40. The Wombles. Bernard Cribbins with another tale of subterranean folk (r) 8.45. Why Don't You? 7. Entertaining Ideas for young people from children living in Cardiff (r) 10.15.

10.25 Cricket: The NatWest Bank Trophy. Live coverage of both semi-final matches, introduced by Peter West and Tony Lewis. The commentators for these 60-overs-a-side matches are Richie Benard, Jim Laker, Tom Graveney and Christopher Martin-Jenkins. There is further coverage of the games on this channel at 1.45 and BBC2 at 10.55, 1.20 and 1.35 with highlights 11.15, Interval at 12.20.

1.00 News At Nine. News (London and SE only). Financial report 1.30. King Radio (1) 1.35 Eric-It-Brac (r).

1.45 Cricket. Further coverage of the semi-final matches in the NatWest Bank Trophy. Introduced by Peter West and Tony Lewis. 4.18 Regional News (not London).

4.20 Play School. Shown earlier on BBC2. 4.45 Cartoon: Boss Cat. 5.05 John Craven's Newsworld. 5.10 Children of Destiny. Prince Leopold's Niobe. (r).

5.40 News with Moira Stuart. 6.00 South East at Six.

6.25 Doctor Who. Peter Davison in the third part (of four) of an adventure entitled The Visitation. (r).

6.50 The Show Me Show. The first of a new series, presented by John Craven and Maggie Philbin, which takes a light-hearted look at the world of science.

7.20 Film: The Kentuckian (1955) starring Burl Ives, Dianne Foster and Diane Lynn. Set in the 1920s this tale concerns Big Eli and his son, Little Eli, who decide leave their home in Kentucky for the promise of Texas. But on the way Big Eli is arrested and thrown into jail – which is only the start of his troubles. This film was Lancaster's debut as a director and also the beginning of Walter Matthau's career on the screen.

9.00 News with John Humphrys.

9.25 Play: Bazaar and Rummage, by Sue Townsend. A sometimes witty story about a group of females suffering from agoraphobia trying to go into the wide world in the care of a would-be social worker (see Choice).

10.35 Entertaining: The Miracle of Intervale Avenue. A documentary about the small Jewish community of the decaying Bronx area of New York (see Choice).

11.13 News headlines.

11.15 Flamingo Road. Michael Tyron surprises everybody by donating land for the local Arts Centre.

12.05 Weather.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/265m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF: 90-92.5; Radio 4: 2000kHz/1500m; VHF: 92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF: 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF: 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF: 94.9; World Service MF: 648kHz/463m.

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Anne Davies. News with Gavyn Scott at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.55; sports news at 6.45 and 7.45; Chris Tarrant in Britain with guest Patricia Hodge from 8.30; the studio guest, from 7.00, is Richard Stilgoe; Bowie video – Ashes to Ashes – at 7.25; Nicola Paget's star forecast at 8.05; a preview of the day's television at 8.35; exercises with Mad Lizzie at 8.55; Roland Rat in Oxford from 9.00.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines followed by Sesame Street in which the muppets and their human friends make learning seem 10-25 Science International. A glimpse of the world of scientific research.

10.35 Sport: Billy in Bed Weather Blues (r) 11.00 Island Wildlife. The three species of deer found in Ireland – the red, the fallow and, introduced from Japan, the sika 11.50. Cartoon Time, Blood Sports.

12.00 Button Moon. Rocket Adventures of the Spoon family. For the very young, 12.10 Paddington with puppets (r) 12.30 The Electric Theatre Show. Presenter John Doran examines the work of film's special magician, Nick Alder.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Emeralddale Farm. (r), 2.00 A Plus Revisited. Judith Chalmers on the subject of incontinence with six sufferers of varying ages plus a discussion on its management with specialist doctor Roger Farnley and nurse Christine Norton (r).

2.30 Racing from York. Day two of the meeting features the Moorsides Corinthian Maiden Stakes (2.35); the Total-Ebor Handicap (3.10); and the Great Voltigeur Stakes (3.40).

4.00 Rod, Jane and Freddy in Cockney. The Queen's Coach: Victoria and Albert in The Garden Shed. 4.20 Earth's World. Rod Hull is still trying to keep his pet in order (r) 4.45 What's Happening. Current affairs quiz with 2C2R Bournemouth and Radio Alre. 5.15 Daffy Strokes.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news.

6.25 What's Worth. Sally Hawkins answers viewers' letters on consumer problems.

6.35 Crossroads. Benny receives some advice from Joe MacDonald on spiders and Mavis Hooper.

7.00 Where There's Life ... Dr Rob Buckman asks New York doctors and members of the gay community whether we are all at risk from AIDS now that it has reached these shores.

7.30 Coronation Street. Des Foster turns out to be deeper than Bet imagined and Karl is fighting to keep the youth club in business.

8.00 Yearned in Town. A star-studded list of impersonations plus the Elaine Page and Gliber O'Sullivan (r).

9.00 Jenny Share Investigates: The Damask Connection. The trampy television investigator attends a wine-tasting and finds herself mixed up in a case of murder.

10.00 News.

10.30 Film: Kitty and the Beggar (1982) starring Liddy Clark, Val Lehman and Jon Stanton. Lighthearted 1920s gangster romp about how to answer questions about the efforts of the Sydney police to keep law and order. Directed by Donald Crosbie.

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1903-1983: Terrifying thoroughfares abhorred by all travellers

The costermongers of London's east end are less of a traffic hazard today than they were in 1903, and the unhappy union between wooden pavements and macadam strips near Brent Bridge has been long dissolved together with the bridge itself (Michael Horswell writes).

But London's road network is just as inefficient today as it was 80 years ago, with frustrations of a difficult kind reducing the speed of traffic to little faster than that of a marathon runner.

A special test by the Royal Automobile Club along some of the capital's main roads has shown that motorists face as many difficulties now as the RAC reported their predecessors did in 1903.

In that year club officials escorted members of the Royal Commission on London Traffic in horseless carriages on a 32-mile route across London. The jaunt was followed by a report in the club's journal of inadequate roads, congestion and long delays.

The report said that an offer had been made by the RAC "to place motor cars at the disposal of the commissioners, in the belief that some personal knowledge of the main roads of London would probably convey to the commissioners a keener appreciation of the great need for wider and better roads."

The report added: "It was pointed out that at the present moment no facilities exist for building new trunk roads to relieve the traffic on the few existing main roads."

The Times has ventured along the route the commissioners took and, like the RAC which tried it a few days ago, clocked up an average speed of under 14 mph.

The journey started at Brentford and ended at the Bank in the City, taking in Ealing, Willesden, Paddington, Mayfair, Bloomsbury, King's Cross, Walthamstow, and Stratford.

In Brentford, cyclists were frequently the speediest travellers. At Ealing Common traffic was compressed like thick liquid passing through a sanguine artery. Immobile for 10 minutes at the Edgware Road junction with Harrow Road, one jam led to another until the journey was completed in just under two and a half hours.

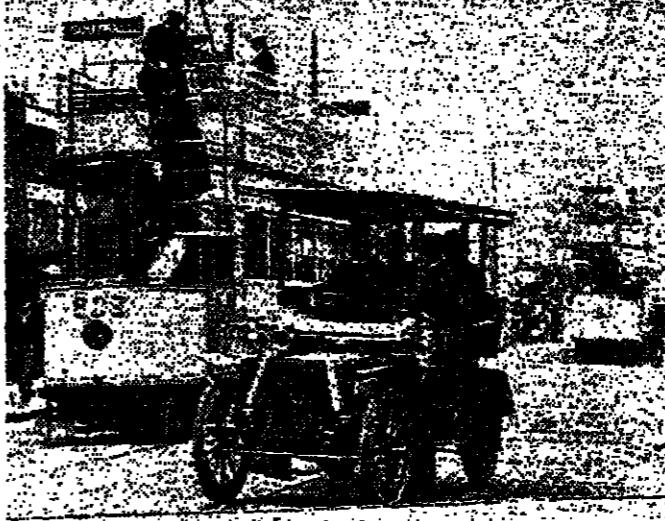
Mr Tony Lee, the RAC's director of public affairs, commented: "It is about time that thousands of motorists and drivers of freight transport were relieved of the deplorable difficulties they face." London's road network demanded a comprehensive reappraisal, he added. Just as it did in 1903.



1903: The caravan assembles in Great George Street.



Near Hammersmith Bridge - pause for consultation.



"Congestion" near the old Uxbridge Road station.

1903: The caravan assembles in Great George Street.

6 Brentford was crowded with trams, market gardeners' carts and heavy vehicles ... a fairly good example of the way in which the through traffic is delayed 9

6 Wanted, a Circular Road ... Probably one of the best means of relieving congestion in the central districts would be the building of a thoroughfare round London 9

6 A needed improvement ... the need for considerable street improvement was urged 9

6 The junction ... was viewed and declared to be one of the most dangerous in London 9

6 The terrors of the Lea Bridge Road have increased with the growth of traffic ... Abhorred by all travellers ... it is nevertheless a most important traffic artery 9

1903: Still heavily congested but with local private and commercial traffic while through traffic takes the overhead M4 9

6 Still wanted because the North Circular Road through Ealing Common is hopelessly inadequate 9

6 Traffic here becomes almost immobile requiring about ten minutes to travel one mile even in perfect conditions 9

6 One of the few underpasses in central London has been constructed here but this usually only speeds up movement from one traffic jam to the next 9

6 Still terrifying in part and abhorred by travellers escaping from the East End to Epping Forest but partly relieved by the A102(M) 9

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